

JAN 19 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that county ordinances
2 may prohibit riding a skateboard upon a roadway or street. For
3 example, section 15-4.6, Revised Ordinances of the City and
4 County of Honolulu, prohibits the riding of a skateboard upon
5 any roadway.

6 Notwithstanding ordinances prohibiting skateboard use on
7 roadways and streets, the legislature further finds that many
8 young people ride in violation of the law. The legislature also
9 finds that skateboard accidents on roadways and streets usually
10 result in serious injury to the rider, particularly head trauma.

11 The legislature additionally finds that young people riding
12 skateboards on roadways and streets should be required to wear a
13 safety helmet.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require the use of a safety
15 helmet by anyone under the age seventeen while riding a
16 skateboard.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§291C- Skateboards; helmet required. (a) No person
5 under seventeen years of age shall operate a skateboard upon a
6 street, bikeway, or any other public property unless that person
7 is wearing a properly fitted and fastened helmet that has been
8 tested by a nationally recognized agency such as the National
9 Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the National Safety
10 Council, or the Children's Safety Network, and is designed to
11 fit the user and protect against head trauma.

12 (b) This section shall not be construed to legalize the
13 use of skateboards in violation of any county ordinance.

14 (c) As used in this section:

15 "Roadway" shall have the same meaning as defined in section
16 291C-1.

17 "Skateboard" means a short board that is on wheels and that
18 a person stands on to move along a surface or to perform tricks.

19 "Street" shall have the same meaning as defined in section
20 291C-1."

21 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Karl Rhoads*



S.B. NO. 2519

Report Title:

Highway Safety; Skateboards; Helmets

Description:

Requires persons under the age of seventeen to wear a helmet while riding a skateboard. Clarifies that the Act does not infringe on county ordinances prohibiting skateboards on streets and roadways.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

