

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 257

Short Title: Motorcycles/Face Masks. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Bumgardner.

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Transportation, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 5, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT THE USE OF A FACE MASK WHILE OPERATING A  
3 MOTORCYCLE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 14-12.11 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 14-12.11. Exemptions from provisions of Article.

7 (a) The following are exempted from the provisions of G.S. 14-12.7, 14-12.8, 14-12.9,  
8 14-12.10 and 14-12.14:

- 9 (1) Any person or persons wearing traditional holiday costumes in season;  
10 (2) Any person or persons engaged in trades and employment where a mask is  
11 worn for the purpose of ensuring the physical safety of the wearer, or because  
12 of the nature of the occupation, trade or profession;  
13 (3) Any person or persons using masks in theatrical productions including use in  
14 Mardi Gras celebrations and masquerade balls;  
15 (4) Persons wearing gas masks prescribed in civil defense drills and exercises or  
16 emergencies; and  
17 (5) Any person or persons, as members or members elect of a society, order or  
18 organization, engaged in any parade, ritual, initiation, ceremony, celebration  
19 or requirement of such society, order or organization, and wearing or using  
20 any manner of costume, paraphernalia, disguise, facial makeup, hood,  
21 implement or device, whether the identity of such person or persons is  
22 concealed or not, on any public or private street, road, way or property, or in  
23 any public or private building, provided permission shall have been first  
24 obtained therefor by a representative of such society, order or organization  
25 from the governing body of the municipality in which the same takes place,  
26 or, if not in a municipality, from the board of county commissioners of the  
27 county in which the same takes place.

28 Provided, that the provisions of this Article shall not apply to any preliminary meetings held  
29 in good faith for the purpose of organizing, promoting or forming a labor union or a local  
30 organization or subdivision of any labor union nor shall the provisions of this Article apply to  
31 any meetings held by a labor union or organization already organized, operating and functioning  
32 and holding meetings for the purpose of transacting and carrying out functions, pursuits and  
33 affairs expressly pertaining to such labor union.



1       (b)    Notwithstanding G.S. 14-12.7 and G.S. 14-12.8, a person may wear a mask for the  
2 purpose of protecting the person's head, face, or head and face, when operating a motorcycle, as  
3 defined in G.S. 20-4.01."

4           **SECTION 2.** This act is effective December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses  
5 committed on or after that date.