

HB 562 -- AUTOCYCLES

SPONSOR: Davis

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Select Committee on Rules by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill allows a motorist or passenger to operate or ride an autocycle without a helmet provided the autocycle has a roof which meets or exceeds the standards established for protective headgear. Additionally, the bill allows for the operation of the autocycle on a highway provided that motorist has a valid driver's license.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the current legal requirements to wear a helmet while operating an autocycle are unnecessary due to the roof and other safety features which are standard on an autocycle. Additionally, it is impossible to wear the helmet inside the vehicle due to a lack of space when the roof is closed. Allowing an autocycle to operate on roads will make them more available to the general public and will provide a low-cost option to automobile consumers.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Davis; Bill Kempker, and Freedom Of The Road Riders.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.