



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 290

February Session, 2018



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR TAILGATING AND
CONOR'S LAW REGARDING PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR WHILE
SKATEBOARDING, ROLLER SKATING AND IN-LINE SKATING.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-240 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

3 (a) No [driver of] person operating a motor vehicle shall follow
4 another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having
5 regard for the speed of such vehicles, the traffic upon and the
6 condition of the highway and weather conditions.

7 (b) No person operating a motor vehicle shall drive [a] such vehicle
8 in such proximity to another vehicle as to obstruct or impede traffic.

9 (c) Motor vehicles being driven upon any highway in a caravan
10 shall be so operated as to allow sufficient space between such vehicles
11 or combination of vehicles to enable any other vehicle to enter and
12 occupy such space without danger. The provisions of this subsection
13 shall not apply to funeral processions or to motor vehicles under
14 official escort or traveling under a special permit.

15 (d) [Violation of any of the provisions] Any person who violates any
16 provision of this section shall [be] have committed an infraction,

17 [provided] except that (1) any person operating a commercial vehicle
18 combination in violation of any such provision shall have committed a
19 violation and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more
20 than one hundred fifty dollars, or (2) if the violation results in a motor
21 vehicle accident, such person shall have committed a violation and
22 shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two
23 hundred dollars.

24 Sec. 2. Section 14-286d of the general statutes is repealed and the
25 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

26 (a) For the purposes of this section and section 14-286e, "bicycle"
27 means any vehicle propelled by the person riding the same by foot or
28 hand power.

29 (b) No child fifteen years of age or under shall operate a bicycle,
30 nonmotorized scooter or skateboard or wear roller skates or in-line
31 skates on the traveled portion of any highway unless such child is
32 wearing properly fitted and fastened protective headgear which
33 conforms to the minimum specifications established by the American
34 National Standards Institute or the Snell Memorial [Foundation's
35 Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in Bicycling] Foundation, as
36 amended from time to time. Failure to comply with this section shall
37 not be a violation or an offense. Failure to wear protective headgear as
38 required by this subsection shall not be considered to be contributory
39 negligence on the part of the parent or the child nor shall such failure
40 be admissible in any civil action.

41 (c) A law enforcement officer may issue a verbal warning to the
42 parent or guardian of a child that such child has failed to comply with
43 the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

44 (d) A person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of renting
45 bicycles shall provide [a bicycle helmet] protective headgear
46 conforming to the minimum specifications established by the
47 American National Standards Institute or the Snell Memorial

48 Foundation's Standard for Protective Headgear for Use in Bicycling, as
49 amended from time to time, to any person under sixteen years of age
50 who will operate the bicycle if such person does not have [a helmet]
51 protective headgear in his or her possession. A fee may be charged for
52 the [helmet] protective headgear rental. Violation of any of the
53 provisions of this subsection shall be an infraction.

54 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may establish, within
55 available appropriations, a public awareness campaign to educate the
56 public concerning the dangers of riding bicycles, skateboarding, roller
57 skating and in-line skating without [helmets] protective headgear and
58 to promote the use of [safety helmets] protective headgear while riding
59 bicycles, skateboarding, roller skating and in-line skating.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	14-240
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	14-286d

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*