

additional 40 cent increase per day per patient will be used only for the reimbursement to nursing homes for the purchase of over-the-counter drugs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the adoption of this Resolution shall be satisfactory and sufficient approval as required under the provisions of Chapter 119 of the Acts of 1975.

Approved March 16, 1976.

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No. 2

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 5)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Safety of Motorcycle Helmets

FOR the purpose of requesting the Motor Vehicle Administration to conduct a study with respect to the conflicting reports of the safety of motorcycle helmets and to report to the General Assembly any findings or recommended changes in the present Maryland law.

WHEREAS, There is conflicting evidence with respect to the safety of motorcycle helmets[], as many studies indicate that the wearing of motorcycle helmets may be as dangerous as not wearing them; and

WHEREAS, According to federal highway safety researchers, although "helmets sharply reduce fatal head injuries for motorcyclists. . . they may be causing an increase in deaths from broken necks"; and

WHEREAS, As shown in a study by New York State, the number of fatal neck injuries has increased greatly since the use of motorcycle helmets was made mandatory there in 1967, and similar results have been found in studies in Washington, Georgia, Oregon, and other states; and

WHEREAS, At present, motorcycle helmets are designed to protect the head safely up to only approximately a 13 or 14 mile per hour impact, thereby providing little or no protection for highway motorcyclists[]; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Motor Vehicle Administration is requested to conduct a study with respect to the conflicting reports of the safety of motorcycle helmets and to report to the General Assembly any findings or recommended changes in the present Maryland law; and be it further