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LB 303

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, Senator Smith, I'm trying to get a handle on the more complex part of the bill and I wanted to ask you...and maybe I should just ask you by way of example, because that will tell me whether I've been reading the bill right or not, but if I'm 22 years old and I go out and buy a motorcycle for the first time, as I read the bill, I can get on the motorcycle and I don't ever have to take the safety course that's outlined in the bill, and I can just take off and go. Is that correct?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Beutler, the effective date is, like, January 1, 2005, I believe. There is a grandfather clause for those experienced riders. And if you have a better way to approach the same thing, I'm open-minded about that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. The answer is yes?

SENATOR SMITH: Practical application, I...conceivably, yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And this 22...you indicated in your remarks that this 22-year-old person would have to be an experienced rider. But isn't it true that you could have no experience whatsoever and be this 22-year-old person who bought a motorcycle, and not have to take the safety course?

SENATOR SMITH: That would be conceivable. And the practical application is what we're trying to work with here. And whether it's the secondary offense mechanism or, you know, who applies and when. And when you have an onslaught of people wanting to take the course, that was an issue. And so we moved the effective date back a little bit. So, unfortunately, we've taken a pretty simple aspect...

SENATOR BEUTLER: You can go forward on your time. Thank you. The reason I wanted to ask the question was in part to get a better understanding of the two portions of the bill. Because I think, from Senator Smith's remarks, I'm reading the bill correctly in that anybody who was born after January 1, 1984, doesn't have to take the safety test. So the safety knowledge