

June 3, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley

Office of the Governor

1205 Pendleton Street

Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley

I am most disappointed in the passing of the new moped legislation. Earlier versions of this bill seemed to be heading in a positive direction by restricting the highways that a moped would be allowed on to 35MPH. additionally, no one with a suspended driver license would be able to get a moped operator license until the suspension term had expired thus eliminating the circumvention of the removal of driving privileges on SC highways.

The amendments contained in the bill eliminates the above stated conditions. In fact, this bill seems to give more options and considerations to moped operators making it much easier for them to occupy the highways at a high risk of injury or death and the frustration of the motorists that are backed up behind them.

Driving is a privilege, not a right and when one violates the law to the point of losing this privilege it should not be circumvented by a moped with South Carolina support.

I've enclosed a copy of an e-mail that contains additional information concerning this subject.

I plead with you to veto this bill and send it back for a rewrite to include positive change and restriction on mopeds.

Sincerely,



Alan R. Sipe

Moped Bill

From : alanandjanesipe@sccoast.net
Subject : Moped Bill
To : abc15news@wpde.com
Cc : alanandjanesipe@sccoast.net . <alanandjanesipe@sccoast.net>

Fri, Jun 03, 2016 09:59 PM

I have followed this bill for 6 months. In January the bill seemed to be heading in a direction that would greatly reduce this dangerous nuisance from SC highways. Originally, mopeds would be restricted to roads with a speed limit of 35 mph thus removing them from the high speed highways and eliminating the danger to the operator and the frustrations of motorists. **Now the bill has been amended to allow mopeds to be operated on highways with up to 55 mph speed limits.**

The original bill stated that no person would be issued a moped operator license if their regular driver license is under suspension. This would eliminate the possibility of circumventing the loss of a license and the person could continue to be on the highways on his moped. Driving on the nations highways is a privilege, not a right. There is other means for one to travel if they want to. If I am reading the amended bill correctly, in **section 9 section 56-1-1730 of the 1976 code is amended to read: "A person is eligible for a moped operator's license without regard to his eligibility for or status of any other driver's license or permit"**. Please look into this and verify it's accuracy. If true, this allows any one with a suspended driver license to obtain a moped operator license and puts them right back on the highways.

If the above is correct this bill and the 3 years it took to bring it to a vote is a total disgrace and I hope our legislatures are proud of this piece of work that does nothing at all to increase safety for the moped operator and the frustrations of the line of motorists behind them. No one in political office has the courage to say no. Just give everyone what they want, it'd the easy way out.

Alan Sipe, Garden City Beach

