

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3697**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Steven S. Howitt*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act requiring the use of helmets for electronically propelled wheeled vehicle operators and passengers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3697**

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By Representative Howitt of Seekonk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3697) of Steven S. Howitt relative to requiring the use of helmets for electronically propelled wheeled vehicle operators and passengers. Transportation.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 5363 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act requiring the use of helmets for electronically propelled wheeled vehicle operators and passengers.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 85 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by inserting after Section 11D the following section:-

3 Section 11D1/2. Any person operating an electric scooter, bicycle, skateboard, or other  
4 electronically propelled wheeled vehicle, including hybrid electric bicycles, on a public way,  
5 bicycle path or on any other public right-of-way shall wear a helmet. Such helmet shall fit the  
6 person's head and be secured by straps at all times and shall meet the standards for helmets  
7 established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI Z 90.4) or the Snell Memorial  
8 Foundation's 1984 standard for use in bicycling. A violation of this section shall not be used as

9 evidence of contributory negligence in a civil action. Nothing in this section shall require  
10 individuals operating a motorized wheelchair to wear a helmet.

11 A city or town shall be prohibited from adopting any by-laws or ordinances to change the  
12 standards required by this section.