

Senators Bieda, Anderson and Rocca offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 75.

A resolution dedicated to Bicycle Helmet Safety Awareness in an effort to protect the children and citizens within our communities.

Whereas, Each year, over 500,000 United States citizens go to the hospital from a bicycle-related injury; 300,000 of them children. While there is no federal or Michigan law requiring helmets, promoting helmet safety awareness is essential in ensuring safety statewide and nationwide; and

Whereas, In Michigan alone, thousands are injured in bicycle accidents each year. Protecting our citizens and children is a high priority, thus encouraging the use of helmets will prevent future injuries and fatalities. The ability of a helmet to protect its riders is clear, as a study performed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed that helmets can be up to 85 percent effective in reducing head and brain injuries; and

Whereas, From 2007-2011 in Michigan, 14 children under the age of 18 were victims in motor vehicle-bicycle collisions that ultimately cost them their lives. These children did not wear a helmet at the time of their accident, and if they had been wearing one, it could have potentially saved their lives; and

Whereas, The American Academy of Pediatrics has strongly advocated helmet use and awareness to children and the general public. They have reinforced to children and their parents the benefits of proper helmet use and the potential risks of not wearing one. Thus, with family guidance and the establishment of an early habit for wearing a helmet, future injuries and fatalities will be prevented; and

Whereas, Bicycle Helmet Safety Awareness is to be recognized for the safety and well-being of each and every person statewide. This awareness can help save lives and prevent the heartache that these accidents can bring to a family; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we are dedicated to Bicycle Helmet Safety Awareness in our effort to protect the children and citizens within our communities; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan League of Bicyclists, Michigan Department of Transportation, and Michigan Department of Community Health.