FIRST REGULAR SESSION SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 202

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Small Business, Insurance and Industry, February 18, 2009, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

1073S.03C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 537, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the assignment of comparative fault for operating a motorcycle.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 537, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 537.055, to read as follows:

537.055. 1. In any action to recover damages arising out of the ownership, common maintenance, or operation of a motor vehicle, the fact that one of the parties was operating a motorcycle shall not, in and of itself, be considered evidence of comparative negligence.

5 2. When investigating an accident or settling an automobile insurance policy claim, no insurer, agent, producer, or claims adjuster of an insurer shall assign a percentage of fault to a party based upon the sole fact that the party was operating a motorcycle in an otherwise legal manner. As used in this subsection, the term "insurer" shall mean 10 any insurance company, association or exchange authorized to issue policies of automobile insurance in the state of Missouri. The term 11 "automobile insurance policy" shall mean a policy providing automobile 12 13 liability coverage, uninsured motorists coverage, automobile medical 14 payments coverage or automobile physical damage coverage insuring 15 a private passenger automobile owned by an individual or partnership.