



A message from Hawaii State Coordinator Ken Harmeyer

I am planning on having a small meeting in mid May, I hope to see you there. It will be at the Fleet Reserve near the Navy/Marine Golf course on Nimitz. We are going to discuss what is important to you and how AMA can help. I plan on asking the Legislature to make special license plates for motorcycles. Right now if you have a custom bike and have the plate on the side, it is sideways. I want to ask the State to make a plate that will read correctly when it is mounted on the side. Please contact me for the exact date and time of the meeting.

Thank you,
Ken

To reach Ken Harmeyer regarding issues relating to non-competition recreation and motorcyclists' rights in Hawaii, please email him at hicoordinator@ama-cycle.org.

NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released its proposed rule that lifts the summertime ban on higher-ethanol blends of gasoline, particularly E15, which contains 50 percent more ethanol than the common E10. A ban on E15 has been in place during warmer months across most of the country, because the EPA determined it contributes to smog in hot weather. The AMA opposes the increased availability of E15, because use of the fuel is illegal in motorcycles and ATVs, none of which are certified by the EPA to operate on fuel blends containing more than 10 percent ethanol.

Studies show that consumers shop for fuel by price, raising concerns that motorcyclists will inadvertently pump the cheaper E15 blends into their vehicles. Ethanol can cause damage to engines, fuel systems and exhaust components in vehicles not designed for a specific blend. At the same time, the ethanol industry launched an E15 marketing campaign that adds confusion to the issue. Growth Energy, an ethanol marketing organization, began promoting E15 as Unleaded 88 in an effort to help retailers sell more of the fuel blend. So far, Sheetz, Kwik Trip, Protec Fuels, Kum & Go, Minnoco, and Family Express have signed on. In a press release about the campaign, Growth Energy stated, "Unleaded 88 communicates the octane of the fuel in the way consumers are used to seeing it." But by emphasizing octane rating over ethanol content, this campaign could easily mislead consumers into filling their fuel tanks with a harmful mixture for their vehicles.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Six motorcycle manufacturers have joined together with the vision of increasing safety for on-road riders in the United States through data driven approaches and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Harley-Davidson Motor Company, American Honda Motor Company, BMW Motorrad, Indian Motorcycle Company, Kawasaki Motors Corp. USA and Yamaha Motor Corporation USA teamed up to form the Safer Motorcycling Research Consortium. The organization was incorporated as a 501(c)(6) nonprofit to develop strategies to advance and integrate on-road motorcyclists' safety through data driven research and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. The Board of Directors, appointed by the founding member companies, will coordinate and facilitate pre-competitive research activities in collaboration with the interests of relevant federal agencies. SMRC will also include input from associate members consisting of other OEMs, motorcycle industry suppliers, and technical or scientific organizations engaged in the field of on-road motorcycle safety. For more information, visit: SaferMotorcyclingResearchConsortium.org.

LEGISLATION

The AMA opposes the following legislation in Hawaii:

Number: **HI [R] HB 816** - Updated (Status 02/07/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Tom Brower (D-HI)

Title: [RELATING TO SAFETY HELMETS.](#)

Abstract: Requires operators and passengers of motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, and bicycles to wear safety helmets.

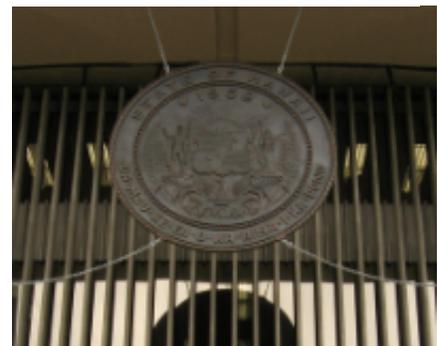
Status: [Referred to TRN, JUD, FIN, referral sheet 6 - 01/28/2019](#)

Number: **HI [R] SB 824** - Updated (Status 04/13/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Rosalyn Baker (D-HI)

Title: [RELATING TO RENTALS OF MOPEDS AND MOTOR SCOOTERS.](#)

Requires all moped and motor scooter rental companies to ensure the rider



wears a safety helmet supplied either by the rental company or by the renter
Abstract: prior to operating the moped or motor scooter. Exempts riders with a motorcycle license from this requirement. Prohibits the rental of any moped or motor scooter with aftermarket modifications. (SB824 HD1)

Status: [Received notice of Senate conferees \(Sen. Com. No. 899\). - 04/12/2019](#)

Number: **HI [R] SB 1338** - Updated (Status 01/29/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Ronald Kouchi (D-HI)

Title: [RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES.](#)

Abstract: Prohibits the sale of motor vehicles with internal combustion engines after December 31, 2029.

Status: [Referred to TRS/CPH, JDC. - 01/28/2019](#)

For information on other legislation the AMA is monitoring in Hawaii, please visit our [legislative report](#).

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