



6981 Kona Drive, Placerville, CA 95667
T: (530) 626-4250 F: (530) 626-4707

AmericanMotorcyclist.com

April 25, 2012

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
Chairman, Senate Transportation and Housing
Committee
State Capitol, Room 5035
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Ted Gaines
Vice Chairman, Senate Transportation and Housing
Committee
State Capitol, Room 3056
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1047

Dear Chairman DeSaulnier and Vice Chairman Gaines:

We fully support the passage of Assembly Bill 1047, which would prohibit the use of motorcycle safety grant monies from being used to fund motorcycle-only checkpoints. The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) has been working at both the state and federal levels to ensure this discriminatory practice is ended.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate of the motorcycling community. We represent the interests of millions of on- and off-highway motorcyclists nationwide. Our mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

The AMA has long questioned the efficacy of these types of programs, and has supported a number of other states in passage of legislation recognizing the unfairness of targeting a single group of road users simply due to their chosen method of travel. Quite simply, the riding community would be better served if these limited federal dollars were used to augment and expand proven existing awareness and safety programs, or to help ensure the completion of important research efforts such as the Motorcycle Crash Causation Study currently underway at Oklahoma State University. The creation of the motorcycle-only checkpoint program was done with no input from the riding community, and has yet to provide any proof of effectiveness or reduction in accident rates.

We ask for your "yes" vote on Assembly Bill 1047.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Haris
Western States Representative