

# HELMET REPEAL

Yes, it's an actual reality now! In last months newsletter you received information and helpful hints on who and how to write letters pertaining to legislation we proposed. This month we can give you the bill numbers of some of our proposals, their sponsors, and reactions some members have received in response. Let us give you the bill first and then go in to what it means and where we go with it from here.

HERE'S THE ONE YOU WANTED!!!

First of all, take note of the sponsors. These people should be sent a note of thanks - without them, we go nowhere, so please help by showing your appreciation.

Now, look at the bill itself. You'll notice HB 2340 is really two acts: (1) amending ORS 487.735 - check last months newsletter and see where we are substituting "that may" for "to" to eliminate this directive and insert an elective. This retains the requirement to establish standards for protective headgear. Hopefully this would mean the helmets people may elect to wear will be of the better constructed type. And, (2) repealing ORS 487.730. and we all know that one "Protective Headgear Required" - 'nuff said?

This bill is now before the House Transportation Committee - this is where most of you come in. We need to convince these seven people to pass this bill to the House floor for a vote. If it does not pass from committee, it's all over! Now, later on, if we get this bill out of committee, we'll have to write all of our lawmakers but for the time being let's concentrate on the committee members, as listed below. Note Mr. Starr, one of the principal sponsors, is on the committee.

- Pat Whiting, Chairman.....Rm 488
- Max Simpson, Vice Chairman.....Rm 481
- Margaret Derili.....Rm 285
- Bill Markham.....Rm 365
- Michael Ragsdale.....Rm 371
- Al Shaw.....Rm 470
- George Star.....Rm 478

Now, that's just the half of it ----- SB 287 is before the Senate Transportation Committee and requires the same treatment. Elizabeth W. Browne is the principal sponsor.

- Charles Hanlon, Chairman.....Rm 218
- Robert Smith, Co-Chairman.....Rm 318
- Walter Brown.....Rm 309
- Wally Carson.....Rm 319
- Ted Hallock.....Rm 311
- Dell Isham.....Rm 210
- Bill McCoy.....Rm 209
- Clifford Trow.....Rm 204

All mail to be addressed to ; the person, the committee, their room number, c/o State Capitol Bldg. Salem, Oregon, 97310

The information about the Senate bill was provided by "Doc"Laffoon, Tres. of Mid-Valley ABATE. He lives in the area and has registered as a lobbyist for ABATE and is this very day meeting with the Chairman and as many members as time will allow of the Senate Transportation Committee This is the kind of involvment we need to reach our goals. Things are looking good for us - let's all keep up our end.

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MORE LEGISLATION

SB 159 and SB 160, introduced by Elizabeth Browne, pertains to riders instruction permits and SB 341, introduced by Ted Hallock, pertains to noise pollution, will be gone into in depth later. As other bills come up we will be issuing special newsletters to keep you up to date. We still don't have details on proposed legislation concerning lights on law, 55mph speed limit, or turn signal requirements. For information on these or any other bills you may call the Bill Room, 1-378-8891.

# MOTORCYCLE SHOW

*on behalf of W.S.P.M.A.*

We just received further word from Mike Abrams, President, Washington State Penitentiary Motorcycle Association concerning their upcoming motorcycle show. While a specific date has yet to be established, we understand we have but 50 days to put it together.

What we need right now is some response from you folks out there in motorcycle land - like who, how many, what, etc. If you'd be interested in being a part of an unusual experience, fill in the necessary information below and get it to us S.A.P. LET'S SUPPORT THESE BROTHERS!!!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

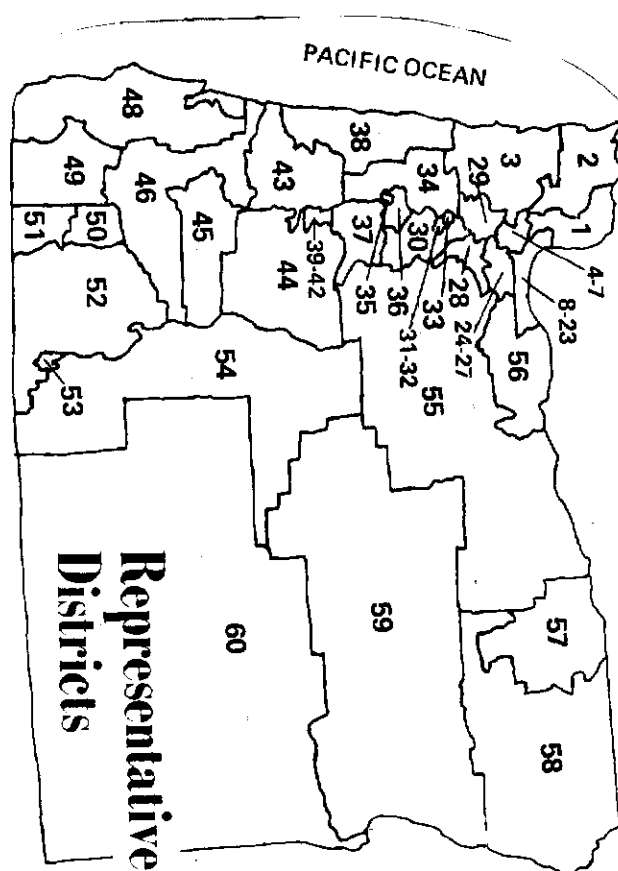
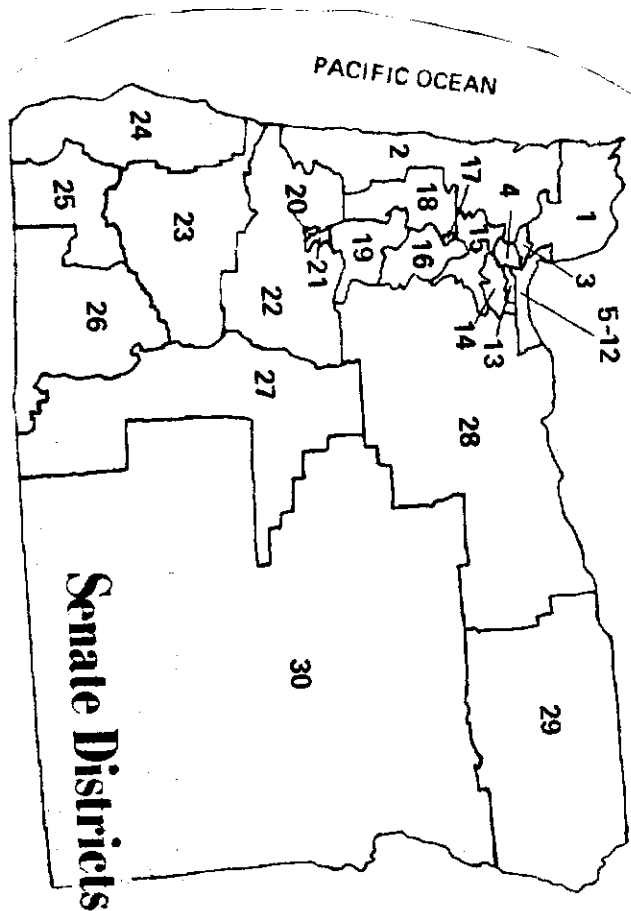
DESCRIBE MOTORCYCLE \_\_\_\_\_

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SENATE DIRECTORY

Party District

Atiyeh, Victor.....	7690 S.W. Fairmoor, Portland, Or. 97225....	Rep	4
Boe, Jason.....	2078 Hawthorne, Reedsport, Or. 97467.....	Dem	23
Brown, Walter F.....	16 S.W. Monticello, Lake Oswego, Or. 97034..	Dem	13
Browne, Elizabeth W....	Laurel Butte Dr. Oakridge, Or. 97463.....	Dem	22
Burbidge, Keith A.....	4271 Ivory Way, N.E. Salem, Or. 97303.....	Dem	17
Carson, Wallace P. Jr..	1309 Hillendale Dr. S.E., Salem, Or. 97302...	Rep	16
Cook, Vernon.....	519 N.E. 4th, Gresham, Or. 97030.....	Dem	12
Fadeley, Edward N.....	260 Sunset Dr. Eugene, Or. 97403.....	Dem	21
Groener, Richard.....	15014 Woodland Way, Milwaukie, Or. ....	Dem	14
Hallock, Ted.....	2445 N.W. Irving St., Portland, Or. 97210..	Dem	5
Hanlon, Charles J.....	Rt. 1 Box 221, Cornelius, Or. 97113.....	Ind	1
Hannon, Lenn L.....	431 Lit Way, Ashland, Or. 97520.....	Dem	26
Heard, Fred W.....	P.O. Box 337, Klamath Falls, Or. 97601.....	Dem	27
Isham, Dell.....	3210 Munsel Lake Rd., Florence, Or. 97439...	Dem	2
Jernstedt, Kenneth.....	911 Pine St., Hood River, Or. 97031.....	Rep	28
Kafoury, Stephen.....	2215 N.E. 16th Ave. Portland, Or 97212.....	Dem	7
McCov, William.....	6650 N. Amherst St., Portland, Or., 97203..	Dem	8
Meeker, Anthony.....	P.O. Box 326 Amity, Or. 97101.....	Rep	15
Potts, E.D.....	754 N.E. Madrone St., Grants Pass, Or. 97526..	Dem	25
Powell, John.....	P.O. Box 92 Ackerman Rd., Halsey, Or. 97348.	Dem	19
Ripper, Jack D.....	Box 489, North Bend, Or., 97459.....	Dem	24
Roberts, Betty.....	2207 N.E. Broadway, Portland, Or. 97232....	Dem	10
Roberts, Frank.....	11609 N.E. Klickitat, Portland, Or. 97220..	Dem	9
Roberts, Mary.....	105 S.E. 84th, Portland, Or., 97216.....	Dem	11
Smith, Robert F.....	771 Ponderosa Village, Burns, Or., 97720....	Rep	30
Thorne, Michael.....	Holdman Route, Pendleton, Or. 97801.....	Dem	29
Trow, Clifford W.....	1835 N.W. Juniper Pl., Corvallis, Or. 97330..	Dem	18
Whipple, Blaine.....	8455 S.W. Brookridge, Portland, Or., 97225..	Dem	3
Wingard, George.....	2323 Fairmount Blvd., Eugene, Or., 97403....	Rep	20
Wyers, Jan.....	1737 S.W. Coronado, Portland, Or., 97219...	Dem	6



HOUSE DIRECTORY

			Party	District
Achilles, T.C. Jr.	RR 1	Box 174, West Linn, Or., 97068.	Rep	27
Blumenauer, Earl	7317	S.E. Woodward, Portland, Or., 97206.	Dem	11
Brogioitti, Robert	Rt. 2	Box 2671, LaGrande, Or., 97850.	Rep	58
Bugas, Ted	1608	Irving, Astoria, Or., 97103.	Rep	2
Burrows, Mary McCauley	3105	Firwood Wv., Eugene, Or., 97401.	Rep	41
Bvers, Bernard	3221	S. Main Rd., Lebanon, Or., 97355.	Dem	37
Cherry, Howard	1602	N. Willamette Bv., Portland, Or., 97217.	Dem	14
Chrest, James	9112	N. Kimball St., Portland, Or., 97203.	Dem	15
Davis, Drew	11121	S.E. Boise. Portland, Or., 97266.	Dem	20
Dereli, Margaret	260	15th St., S.E., Salem, Or. 97301.	Dem	32
Duff, Jack	Rt. 1	Box 62, Adams, Or., 97801.	Rep	57
Fadeley, Nancy	260	Sunset Dr., Eugene, Or., 97403.	Dem	42
Fawbush, Wayne	Rt. 2	Box 1246, Hood River, Or., 97031.	Dem	56
Frohnmayr, Dave	2875	Baker Bv., Eugene, Or. 97403.	Rep	40
Gardner, Mark	1120	N.E. 17th #4, Hillsboro, Or., 97123.	Dem	4
Gilmour, Jeffery L.	Rt. 1,	Box 108, Jefferson, Or., 97352.	Dem	30
Granel, William N.	438	Northwood Rd., North Bend, Or., 97459.	Dem	47
Gustafson, Rick	7833	S.E. 104th, Portland, Or 97266.	Dem	21
Hanneman, Paul	Rt., 2	Box 16, Cloverdale, Or., 97112.	Rep	3
Johnson, Cecil L.	3515	Upper River Rd., Grants Pass, Or. 97526.	Rep	49
Johnson, Sam	P.O. Box	356, Redmond, Or., 97756.	Rep	54
Jones, D.E.	1461	N.W. 3rd. Ave., Ontario, Or., 97914.	Rep	60
Kafoury, Gretchen	1508	N.E. Stanton, Portland, Or. 97212.	Dem	13
Katz, Vera	2068	N.W. Johnson, Portland, Or., 97209.	Dem	8
Kerans, Grattan	1015	Willia Way, Eugene, Or., 97404.	Dem	39
Kinsey, L Lovd	2122	N.E. Alameda St., Portland, Or., 97212.	Dem	18
Klein, Clavton	6887	Blackwell Rd. Central Point, Or., 97501.	Dem	50
Kulongoski, Ed	30303	Maple Dr. Junction City, Or., 97448.	Dem	43
Lanz, Philip D.	7330	S.E. 42nd Ave., Portland, Or., 97206.	Dem	10
Lindquist, Ed	5187	S.E. Rinearson, Milwukie, Or. 97222.	Dem	26
Lombard, Ben Jr.	133	Manzanita, Ashland, Or., 97520.	Rep	52
Magruder, Dick	Rt 2	Box 36 Clatskanie, Or., 97016.	Dem	1
Markham, Bill	Rt 1,	Glenbrook Loop Rd., Riddle, Or. 97469.	Rep	46
Marsh, Tom	12060	S.W. Butner Rd., Portland, Or., 97225.	Dem	5
Martin, Roger E.	13750	S.W. Knaus Rd., Lake Oswego, Or. 97034.	Rep	24
Marx, Robert	Rt 1	Box 64-C, Monmouth, Or., 97361.	Dem	34
Monroe, W. Rod	3950	S.E. Woodward St., Portland, Or., 97202.	Dem	12
Morris, Brad	516	Glairgeau Circle, Medford, Or., 97501.	Rep	51
Mvers, Hardy	132	N.E. Laurelhurst Pl., Portland, Or. 97232.	Dem	19
Otto, Glen E.	1225	E. Columbia, Troutdale, Or., 97060.	Dem	23
Priestley, Wally	6226	N.E. 32nd Ave., Portland, Or., 97211.	Dem	16
Ragsdale, Michael	14250	S.W. Rochester Dr., Beaverton, Or. 97005.	Rep	6
Richards, Sandra L.	19103	N.E. Hassalo, Portland, Or., 97230.	Dem	22
Riebel, Alan	3235	Sumac Dr. S., Salem, Or., 97302.	Rep	31
Rieke, Mary	5519	S.W. Menffee Dr., Portland, Or., 97201.	Rep	9
Rirken, Max C.	P.O. Box	576, Newport, Or., 97365.	Dem	38
Rogers, Bill	P.O. Box	109, Vida, Or., 97488.	Rep	44
Rutherford, William	Rt. 2,	Box 157-A, McMinnville, Or., 97128.	Rep	29
Shaw, Al	Rt. 1	Box 567, Roseburg, Or., 97470.	Rep	45
Simpson, Max	Sumpter	Stage Rt., Baker, Or., 97814.	Dem	59
Starr, George	909	N.E. 114th Ave., Portland, Or. 97220.	Dem	17
Stevenson, Edward	933	S. 1st Ave., Coquille, Or., 97423.	Dem	48
Sumner, Jack	Rt. 1,	Heppner, Or., 97836.	Dem	55
Van Vliet, Tony	1530	N.E. 13th St., Corvallis, Or., 97330.	Rep	35
Vian, Bob	1845	Claxter Rd., Salem, Or., 97303.	Dem	33
Whallon, Glen	13340	S.E. Rusk Rd., Milwukie, Or., 97222.	Dem	25
Whiting, Pat	8122	S.W. Spruce, Tigard, Or., 97223.	Dem	7
Wilhelms, Gary	3869	Madison St., Klamath Falls, Or., 97601.	Rep	53
Wolfer, Curt	458	Monte Vista, Silverton, Or., 97381.	Dem	28
Yih, Mae	Rt. 2	Box 274-L, Albany, Or., 97321.	Dem	36

FOR SALE

We have plentiful supply of the latest model ABATE patch.  
This patch is basically the same with the exception of it's  
size (larger) and the addition of the logo " Dedicated To Freedom  
of the Road".....\$2.00  
Copy of the U.S. Constitution.....\$1.00  
Send to: ABATE of Oregon PO Box 4504 Portland, Oregon 97208

T-Shirts (small, medium, large, and extra large)  
White T-Shirt with ABATE eagle.....\$4.00  
"Helmets are for Bucks Not Protection" T-Shirts  
( Picture of Uncle Sam w/gun and helmet.....\$4.00  
"Helmet Law Sucks"patch.....\$2.00  
Stickers-"Let Those Who Ride Decide"...or..."Helmet Laws Suck"....\$.50  
Send to: ABATE of Washington, PO Box 85, Auburn, Wash., 98002

NEWSLETTER COMMERCIAL ADS

1/8 page or business card size.....\$4.00 per quarter year.  
1/4 page.....\$6.00 per quarter year.  
1/2 page.....\$10.00 per quarter year.  
Full page.....\$15.00 per quarter year

These ads work - ask your local shop to participate.

BIKE SHOW

We've been asked by Mike Abrams, President of the Washington  
State Penitentiary Motorcycle Association to assist them in organ-  
izing a bike show inside the walls in the near future. I told him  
we'd help in any way we can. Seems like we'd get plenty of help  
from ABATE of Washington also. We'll be exchanging correspondence  
to see just how and where we can help. Address is PO Box 520,  
Walla Walla, Washington.

SREAMING EAGLES M/C

Let us not forget our own Brothers , the Screaming Eagles in  
Salem. No word on any future activities scheduled but they are  
trying to build a pan head and need some parts. We don't have a list  
of what they need but if you think you can help drop them a card -  
even if just to say hello. Screaming Eagles M/C Oregon State Penit-  
entiary, Salem, Oregon, 97310.

STATE MEDICAL REPORT SOON

Word comes in the form of a letter to "Doc" Laffoon that the  
State Medical Examiners office will soon complete an in-depth study  
on motorcycle fatalities. Fatal accidents for a period of three years  
prior to the passage of the m/c helmet law and three years after the  
law was in effect. All fatal injuries will be reviewed in such a  
manner so the examiners will not know whether the injured was wearing  
a helmet or whether the death occurred before or after the law was passed.  
We will have access to the results of this study and will pass on the  
results as soon as they're made available to us.

Year	Motorcycle Registrations	Motorcycle Accidents %	% Fatalities To Accidents
67	25,733	3.2	3.8
68	32,423	3.0	3.3
69	41,152	2.6	3.4
70	51,116	2.9	3.5
71	64,623	3.0	3.4

Fact 1 -- Georgia was the first state to enact a mandatory helmet law. Although enacted in 1962, it was not enforced until 1968.

Fact 2 -- Georgia has not enacted any other motorcycle safety laws.

Fact 3 -- Accident ratios remain constant.

Fact 4 -- Fatality ratios remain constant.

CONCLUSION: Compulsory helmet laws have not reduced fatality ratios in Georgia. Unlike other states which have embarked upon over-all safety campaigns, Georgia's accident ratio remains virtually unchanged.

DATA SOURCE: Dept. of Public Safety.

I have gathered similar information from many other states and the results are identical: mandatory helmet laws, in themselves, do not reduce motorcycle accidents nor do they reduce the number of injuries and fatalities resulting from motorcycle accidents. To the contrary, there is some reason to believe that the wearing of helmets increases the rate of both accidents and injuries, including fatal injuries.

#### SOME THEORIES REFUTED

During California's unsuccessful attempt to enact a mandatory helmet law in 1972, the Highway Patrol introduced many state-

while the motorcycle population has risen 129%.

COMMENT: According to DMV reports, automobile registrations have increased 37.6% and motorcycle registrations have increased 148%.

STATEMENT: Although the fatal accident rate per 10,000 registered passenger vehicles has been slowly decreasing since 1965, the fatal accident rate for motorcycles has remained at a level 200% above the rate for all passenger vehicles.

COMMENT: The fatal accident rate for automobiles has decreased from 0.07% to 0.05%, or a net reduction of 2/100 of 1 percent. The fatal accident rate for motorcycles has decreased from 0.10% to 0.07%, or a net reduction of 3/100 of 1 percent.

The California Highway Patrol's statements *appeared* valid on the surface and it was not until all of the statistics could be gathered and examined *logically* that any sort of rebuttal could be made. But when these statistics were examined impartially, some interesting and heretofore unknown facts emerged.

Contrary to what we may have thought in the past, it would now appear that not only is motorcycling practically as safe as operating an automobile, but California has made better strides in reducing motorcycle accidents, injuries and fatalities than it has with automobiles: even without mandatory helmet laws, eye protection laws and headlight laws.

#### UNSAFE HELMETS

If things weren't bad enough, the government recently discovered that most of the helmets they are forcing motorcyclists to wear

won't even pass a minimal safety test. The following is quoted from the U.S. Department of Transportation News, dated October 12th, 1972:

"Almost 90 percent of the motorcycle helmets tested for the Government failed to meet the performance requirements set by industry specifications, the Department of Transportation announced today.

"The Department's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said that 74 tests of 54 different model helmets showed that only eight complied with the standard set by the industry's American National Standards Institute. The tests were conducted by Dayton T. Brown, an independent laboratory."

One of the unfortunate facts of the whole helmet controversy is that almost everyone, including the motorcyclist, has the mistaken notion that a motorcyclist's head is indestructible once encased in a helmet. Although protected somewhat, his head is far from being considered indestructible. To many people's surprise, a helmet is only designed to withstand a 13 or 14 mph impact. Perhaps now we can understand why even the motorcycle helmet industry does not support mandatory helmet laws.

### CONSTITUTIONALITY AND DISCRIMINATION

Throughout the U.S., there have been more than 45 attempts to repeal mandatory helmet laws on the basis that such a law is discriminatory or unconstitutional. These same arguments have been used, mostly without success, to defeat such laws in the proposal state. While we do not deny that such laws appear unconstitutional or discriminatory from the motorcyclist's outlook, it appears that such arguments are not in themselves sufficient to forestall such legislation.

In California where mandatory helmet legislation has been defeat-

ed four times, the answer seems to be in making legislators aware that there is a distinct possibility that helmets take more lives than they save. That argument, based upon the foregoing statistics, stopped California's 1972 attempt at a mandatory helmet law in the Senate Transportation Committee. Previously with only constitutionality and discrimination voiced as a rebuttal to the proposed law, it had breezed through the Assembly (or House). When later heard before the Senate Transportation Committee with the added argument of "Let the motorcyclist make up his own mind as to how he wants to die!" the bill failed to receive one single vote for passage.

If there is a question of constitutionality to be raised at all, it can be with regard to being placed in jeopardy. And motorcyclists must first *convince* the legislatures and courts that their lives are being placed in jeopardy when they are forced to don a helmet. The statistics contained in this article should be sufficient to create that type of defense. If government, either state or federal, doubts the authenticity of such statistics, then let them research the records of coroners and medical examiners. Let them prove to us, with honest and straightforward data, that helmets do save lives. That is all that we have ever asked them to do...from the start.

ABATE of Oregon  
2424 S.W. Jefferson Rd.  
Portland, Ore. 97201



### STATE: CALIFORNIA

YEAR	AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS	AUTOMOBILE IN ACCIDENTS		AUTOMOBILE FATAL ACCIDENTS		AUTOMOBILE INJURY ACCIDENTS	
	(A)	NUMBER	% REG'NS.	NUMBER	% REG'NS.	NUMBER	% REG'NS.
65	8,633,934	222,452	2.6	5,768	0.07	216,884	2.5
66	8,827,296	229,741	2.6	5,965	0.07	223,766	2.5
67	8,941,668	233,138	2.6	DATA NOT AVAILABLE			
68	9,470,047	240,933	2.5	"	"	"	"
69	11,351,623	287,921	2.5	6,454	0.06	281,467	2.5
70	11,444,429	282,474	2.5	6,243	0.05	276,231	2.4
71	11,883,047	285,732	2.4	5,756	0.05	279,976	2.4

YEAR	MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATIONS	MOTORCYCLE IN ACCIDENTS		MOTORCYCLE FATAL ACCIDENTS		MOTORCYCLE INJURY ACCIDENTS	
	(H)	NUMBER	% REG'NS.	NUMBER	% REG'NS.	NUMBER	% REG'NS.
65	264,655	12,687	4.8	276	0.10	12,411	4.7
66	310,072	14,570	4.7	319	0.10	14,251	4.6
67	348,763	14,214	4.1	326	0.09	13,888	4.0
68	395,693	13,830	3.5	354	0.09	13,476	3.4
69	517,361	15,271	3.0	394	0.08	14,877	2.9
70	615,478	17,395	2.8	477	0.08	16,918	2.7
71	657,081	17,892	2.7	485	0.07	17,407	2.6



## DO'S

1. Do know your legislators full name. Spell it correctly.
2. Do inform yourself about the measure of concern to you. Know what you are talking about.
3. Do use plain stationery or personal stationery. If you are writing as the representative of a group, use organization stationery.
4. Do use first class mail.
5. Do let the legislator know how a particular measure will affect your locality - his own home district.
6. Do be concise.
7. Do be complete enough to give pertinent reasons and facts.
8. Do be sincere.
9. Do be courteous always.
10. Do clearly identify the bill, using the title and number, if poss.
11. Do follow through. Let your legislator know you are watching his record with deep interest.
12. Do write a letter of appreciation whenever your legislator does something that meets your approval.

## DON'TS

1. Don't guess at the spelling of your legislators name or initials.
2. Don't guess at facts or base your letters on rumors.
3. Don't use mimeographed letters or printed postcards; they give no evidence that you can think for yourself.
4. Don't use form letters under any circumstances.
5. Don't limit yourself to generalities.
6. Don't be wordy.
7. Don't leave out essential details.
8. Don't use insincere flattery or flowery terms.
9. Don't use threats - ever!
10. Don't get mixed up on the name, the number, or the contents of the bill.
11. Don't write letters of criticism or request only.
12. Don't forget to write a thank you letter.

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You have heard and read that since the mandatory helmet law was introduced, that deaths due to BROKEN NECKS, have increased. But did you know they have increased over 118% ???

That's right over 118%. This is mainly due to the extra weight your head is not accustomed to. A sudden snap or jar can break your neck.

487.705 Unlawful motorcycles operation. (1) A person operating a motorcycle commits the offense of unlawful motorcycle operation if he:

(a) Fails to sit on a permanent and regular seat, attached to the motorcycle;

(b) Carries a person on a motorcycle who is not seated on a permanent and regular seat, if the motorcycle is designed to carry more than one person, or upon another seat attached to the motorcycle at the rear or side of the operators seat;

(c) Fails to sit astride the motorcycle seat facing forward and with one leg on each side of the motorcycle;

(d) Carries a package, bundle or other article which prevents him from keeping both hands on the handlebars;

(e) Carries a person in a position that interferes with the operation or control of the motorcycle or the operators view; or

(f) Carries a person, other than in a sidecar or inclosed cab, on a motorcycle with no footrests for that person.

(2) Unlawful motorcycle operation is a Class B traffic infraction.

487.710 Required position of equiptment. (1) No person shall drive any two-wheel motorcycle equipped with handlebars so positioned that the hands of the driver, when upon the grips, are at or above his shoulder height when sitting astride the seat.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a Class C traffic infraction.

487.715 Motorcyclists right to full traffic lane. (1) A person operating a motorcycle on a roadway has the right to full use of a lane thereof.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, persons may operate motorcycles two abreast in a single lane.

(3) A driver commits the offense of depriving a motorcyclist of traffic lane if he drives his motor vehicle on a roadway laned for traffic in a manner that prevents a motorcyclist from full use of a lane.

(4) Depriving a motorcyclist of traffic lane is a Class B traffic infraction.

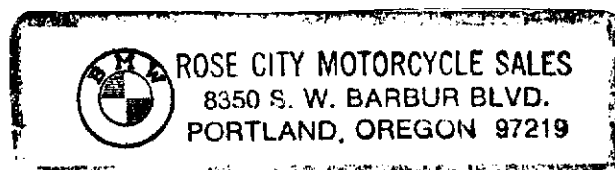
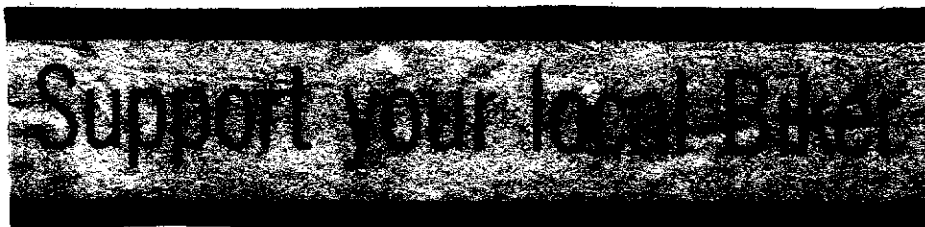
487.720 Unlawful passing or moving in lane with vehicle. (1) A motorcycle operator commits the offense of unlawful passing if he:

(a) Overtakes and passes in the same lane occupied by the vehicle he is overtaking, unless the vehicle he is overtaking is another motorcycle; or

(b) Operates a motorcycle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a police officer in the performance of his official duties.

(3) A motorcycle operator who unlawfully passes commits a Class B traffic infraction.



487.730 Protective headgear required. (1) A person commits the offense of failure to wear protective headgear if he fails to wear protective headgear of a type approved by the Motor Vehicles Division while he operates or rides on a motorcycle.

(2) This section does not apply to any person who is either within an enclosed cab or is operating or riding on a vehicle designed to travel with three wheels in contact with the ground at speeds of less than 15 miles per hour.

(3) Failure to wear protective headgear is a Class C traffic infraction.

487.735 Division to establish standards for protective headgear.

(1) The Motor Vehicles Division shall:

(a) Set up a procedure, similar to the procedure provided by ORS 483.482 and 483.488, which will be followed for approval of protective headgear.

(b) Establish standards for safe protective headgear to be worn by persons operating or riding on motorcycles as required by subsection (1) of ORS 487.730.

(2) Standards established by the division under this section shall conform, in so far as practicable, to the safety standards for such headgear issued by the Federal Government, and to the extent there are no such federal standards, to the safety standards promulgated by the United States of American Standards Institute.

487.740 Motorcycle head lamps required to be on. (1) Subject to the specific exceptions with respect to parked vehicle, lighted lamps and illuminated devices as specified in ORS 483.402 to 483.442 shall be displayed by every motorcycle upon a highway at all times.

(2) Failure to display lighted head lamp on a motorcycle at all times is a Class C traffic infraction.

487.410 Signals by hand and arm or by signal lamps. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a driver shall give a stop or turn signal by activating signal lamps as described in ORS 487.415

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a driver shall give a stop or turn signal either by means of signal lamps or by means of the hand and arm if:

(a) He is driving only in daylight hours between a half-hour before sunrise until a half-hour after sunset and there is sufficient light to discern clearly persons and vehicles at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead; and... (b) does not apply

(3) A driver who fails to give a stop or turn signal by activating signal lamps in violation of subsection (1) of this section commits a Class C traffic infraction.

487.475 Fuel conservation maximum speed limit. (1) Whenever the Oregon Transportation Commission determines that there is a need to conserve fuel because of current or imminent fuel shortages, and further that limiting the maximum speeds of vehicles will conserve motor fuel, the Department of Transportation is authorized to fix a maximum speed of not more than 55 miles per hour upon all highways within the state. A maximum speed limit so set shall not be subject to the provisions of ORS 487.465, except where a special hazard or condition exists that requires a lower speed for compliance with ORS 487.465. The maximum speed limit shall also not be subject to ORS 487.480, 487.490 or 487.510.

(2) Violation of a fuel conservation maximum speed limit is a Class C traffic infraction.

1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to motorcyclists; amending ORS 487.735; and repealing ORS 487.730.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 Section 1. ORS 487.735 is amended to read:

5 487.735. (1) The Motor Vehicles Division shall:

6 (a) Set up a procedure, similar to the procedure provided by ORS 483.482 to  
7 483.488, which will be followed for approval of protective headgear.8 (b) Establish standards for safe protective headgear [~~to~~] that may be worn by  
9 persons operating or riding on motorcycles [*as required by subsection (1) of ORS*  
10 *487.730*].11 (2) Standards established by the division under this section shall conform, in so far  
12 as practicable, to the safety standards for such headgear issued by the Federal  
13 Government and, to the extent there are no such federal standards, to the safety  
14 standards promulgated by the United States of America Standards Institute.15 **SECTION 2.** ORS 487.730 is repealed.





INDIAN CREEK ABATE

Recently formed chapter formerly known as ABATE of laGrande, will hence forth be known as Indian Creek ABATE. Officers ;

CHAIRMAN.....Ron Caswell  
CO-CHAIRMAN.....Jesse Lene  
SEC-TRES.....Dave McLaughlin

PUBLIC RELATIONS.....Stan Long well and Dave McGlaughlin

Meetings are held the 2nd Friday of each month at 7.00pm. For further information, call Ron Caswell, 534-5463 or write - P.O. Box74, Summerville, Oregon, 97876.

MID-VALLEY ABATE

This arm of our organization is busy working for us now making direct contact with our legislators at the capitol. Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month - 7.30 pm - held at Doug and John's Freedom Cycle Works 1190 12th St. S.E. in Salem.

RIVER CITY ABATE

For those members in the Hood River-The Dalles area this unit has meetings the 1st Tuesday and the 3rd Sunday of each month at 8pm. Meetings convene at Spooky's Pizza Parlor. For more info call Co-Chairman Terry Humphreys at 1-503-296-4852.

ABATE CENTRAL

The weather prompted the members present to put off elections until conditions were more favorable to those having to travel. Therefore, elections for State Offices will be held February 8th. Meeting to begin promptly at 8pm. We are attempting to have representatives from each chapter there that evening also for a State Co-Ordinators meeting later. You folks from the local chapters will be glad to hear your charter certificates are ready and will be presented to your reps at this coming meeting. Of course, if noone is able to attend, we will mail it at once.

TALK SHOWS

Almost every area in the state has or receives some type of talk show on the radio. An idea has been suggested that we could reach a large audience if every one would contact their local talk show host or hostess and attempt to air OUR views on the helmet law and other issues concerning us. A few of us have had some success with this in the Portland area. Some one else give this a try and see what kind of results we get. Let us know how it goes.

BIKER \*\*\*\*\* BIKER \*\*\*\*\*BIKER \*\*\*\*\*

Just trying to get your attention. We were reminded of our neglect to put the address etc. for BIKER here ercently. Sorry. Everyone should be into reading this tabloid - even if you can't afford to buy it - talk your partner into it so you can read it too and not be left out on WHAT'S HAPPENING. Righteous rag comes out twice a month, therefore always has nothing but the latest on riding, racing, roaring around, and helps us keep it together on laws, repeals, good looking pit wolfies and who knows ( the who knows comes from the fact that they are willing to print items about, for, and by people like you and me. 8 bucks buys 25 issues-BIKER SUBSCRIPTIONS BOX 2610 Long Beach, Ca 90801

THANKS FROM THE YWCA

" Will you again express my gratitude to the members of ABATE who helped with the tree sale. Their hard work saved us an entire week of working in the trees just setting up the courtyard.

The tree sale was a big success for Westwind, thanks to you and so many people who care.

Now that we are into the new year, please stop by so we can schedule a time for ABATE to enjoy Westwind.

Looking forward to seeing you. Warmly, Vi Martin-Administrator!"

For those of you unfamiliar with Westwind - you've missed out. We have enjoyed working with the "Y" at their beautiful camp on the coast in the past and are looking forward to doing so again. We appreciate the opportunity to further our relationship and aide the community.

TALK ABOUT INVOLVMENT

I notice ABATE of Oregon member Stoney Blue is from the state of Washington. Not that that so unusual - we have many out-of-state members - but Stoney is also the local rep for ABATE of Washington in the Battleground area. Now that's encouraging, ain't it!

MORE THANKS FROM THE PORTLAND FIRE DEPT.

Dear Friends,

We want to express our appreciation for helping us pack and sort toys for our Toy and Joy program. Our program is only possible because of the donations and help we receive from people like you who really care.

On behalf of these children and the Portland Fire Bureau, accept our sincere gratitude. Sincerely, Arnold Schumann, Lieutenant, Director, Toy and Joymakers."

MORE ABOUT OUT-OF-STATE MEMBERS

I'd veture to say we have a chance of having more out-of-state members than any other state, We have members in Missouri, Montana, Calif., Wash., Idaho, Utah, New York, and, of course, over-seas.

ABATE OF OREGON FINANCIAL REPORT

Because this letter goes to some who are not members it was decided not to publish our report here. This information belongs to the members and to the members only. Those of you wishing a copy please advise. If you want yours copied quickly and surely bribe us with a self-addressed envelope complete with 13 cent stamp securely attached

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HERE'S THE CHANCE WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! - Ed Armstrong, ABATE of Chicago, (that's Illinois folks, where they don't even have a helmet law!) is willing to represent bikers of the country on National Television! We've all read Ed's articles in the biker rags, and we know he can really tell it like it is! Write to: Mr. Tom Snyder, c/o Tomorrow Show, NBC Television Network, New York, N.Y. and tell him you would like Ed to be his guest on his show to air views on a subject highly controversial to motorcyclists! Also, don't forget to mention Ed's address: (ABATE of Chicago, c/o Ed Armstrong, 215 Grove Avenue, Fox River Grove, Ill. 60021)

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## LEGISLATORS RESPONSE

These responses are offered as a guide line - an inside look at where your lawmakers are coming from. We ask everyone who receives a reply, be it pro, con, or middle of the road, to furnish us with a copy so that we may share it with all the members. If you don't have access to a means of reproduction, send the original, we'll copy and return it shortly.

Most of the replies were received by David Thierolf, Ray Payton, Greg Schab, and Jerry Graham. In some cases all four received an answer.

From Stephen Kafoury, " I am in favor of repeal. I hope you will continue to keep me informed of your concerns on other issues".

Rep. Lloyd Kinsey writes..." I cannot give you a firm statement of my position....need of further study....will consider your views".

Tony Meeker says...."..have mixed emotions.....am interested in hearing testimony and not comment until I do".

Philip Lang supported the helmet law when it was passed. "...I did so on the basis of documented traffic safety information and because the exposure of a cyclist to injury, when he is not wearing a helmet submits the rest of society to serious potential financial penalties.

However, a possible compromise has been suggested, which makes some sense to me. It provides that a cyclist's medical payments insurance coverage would be limited in the event of head injury to those cases where a helmet was worn. In addition, defendants sued by a motorcyclist would be given similar protection.

In this way, freedom of choice would be allowed and no one but non-helmet-wearing cyclist would be required to underwrite the additional risk involved"

( This Rep. would seem to have us all lying out in the street bleeding to death after " some little 'ol lady pulled in front of us-but officer, I didn't see the motorcycle" trip just because we weren't wearing our "protective headgear" I think we'd better all educate him.)

There's more... we've a lot of work to do.

George Starr....." You'll be glad to know Ive a bill drafted to repeal the mandatory helmet law".

Senator Heard straddles the fence....." I will be looking at both sides of the question quite closely before making a final decision".

Rep. Jim Chrest writes...." There are many good arguements on both sides of the question..... I know of several people personally who have had accidents, some of whom were wearing helmets and some who were not. Everyone said that the helmet was a factor in their either not receiving severe head injuries or, if not wearing one, the lack of the helmet caused them to received injuries they fell they would not have otherwise incurred.

I have talked to bike riders over the years about the issue and am aware of some of the problems of excessive heat, poor visibility, etc. I am not at this time prepared to say whether or not I will vote for repeal.

I am not trying to dodge the issue. I just don't know at this time how I would vote. I apologize for not being more concise. Once again thanks for your interest. I will keep your opinion in mind when the time comes."

Senator Dick Groener is..." very much in favor of this law. I have a son alive and well because he was wearing a helmet at the time of a motorcycle accident. The helmet was severely damaged. The doctor said, "you can be very thankful for the helmet or your son would be dead or left with severe brain damage".

I would never, under any circumstances, vote to repeal the helmet law.

(Now that seems to be a hard line to take - I'm not quite sure this is representation of the people)

Senator Cook makes one feel better with..." I will be happy to sponsor a bill repealing the helmet law..." (Thank you, Senator)

Jan Wyers, Senator from District Six, in a rather long letter, at first seemed quite pro-helmet but in a later hand written addition, went on to say..." I want to learn more about injuries and costs. If helmets actually don't save lives or mitigate injuries, then they should not be required".

Senator Mike Thorne says..." I agree with your position and would support the repeal of the helmet law".

As this list grew so did that of those members receiving replies-add to those already mentioned the names of Ron Caswell, Chairman of Indian Creek Chapter( previously known as LaGrande), and John Pesciallo of Milton-Freewater. Thank you Gentlemen. Where's YOURS?

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## CONGRATULATIONS

ARE DUE ABATE OF UTAH, WHEELZ, THE BARON'S M/C, BROTHER SPEED M/C - AND ALL THE OTHERS WORKING TOGETHER TO REPEAL THE HELMET LAW IN UTAH. YOU DID A HELL OF A JOB AND MADE THE WAY EASIER FOR THE REST OF US. THANKS ALSO FOR THE PHONE CALLS LETTING US BE AMONG THE FIRST TO KNOW.

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### WORD FROM ABATE OF MONTANA

"Enclosed is a copy of our bill. It looks very good for us. The Governor has stated he will sign the bill if it passes. Perhaps sometime this year the Northwest ABATE people can get together someplace. How are Frank and Barbara Hupp? Definately enjoyed their company and wish they could have stayed longer." Rick Pylypuw State Co-Ordinator ( Glad to see you get it off the ground Rick and glad we could have helped. ABATE members Frank and Barbara visited Montana while on a trip this past summer. Ed.)

### THANKS FROM CENTENARY-WILBUR CHURCH

"I received your gift to the Church and rejoiced. Thank you for your good wishes and tangible evidence of same. The Church has had an amazing response to our appeal for financial support and that response will enable us to breath somewhat easier into June and give us time to plan for the remainder of the year". Sincerely, Rev. Harper Richardson. (We are fortunate enough to have the use of Centenary-Wilbur for our meetings and some work projects. In appreciation, we occasionally make a donation to aid the Church in it's struggle to survive. At a recent meeting, the members attending voted to give the Church \$50.00. This has been done on an approximate average of every six months.)

MEETINGS ARE HELD EACH SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAYS OF EVERY MONTH 8PM  
THE ADDRESS IS 215 SE 9TH, PORTLAND, OREGON. EVERYONE WELCOME.

CONFIDENTIAL

ABATE 1976 Financial Report

INCOME

Memberships.....	\$1,430.00
Patches.....	307.50
Swap-Meet.....	1,789.67
Elkhorn Return.....	1,160.20
Newsletter Ads.....	80.00
Misc.....	11.80
	<hr/>
	\$4,779.17

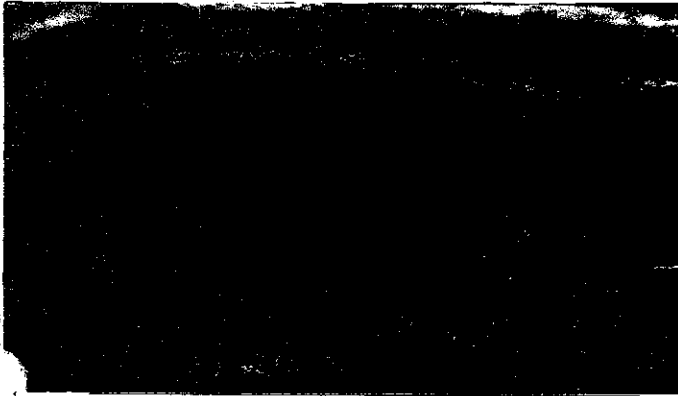
EXPENSES

Printing.....	\$ 771.78
Postage.....	530.65
Phone.....	83.20
Office Supplies.....	149.29
Patches.....	257.00
Gas.....	67.45
Bad Checks.....	54.00
Swap-Meet.....	777.85
Elkhorn.....	1,034.04
	<hr/>
	\$4,004.85

Balance.....	\$ 774.32
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Y.W.C.A. WORK PARTY

Christmas tree gathering party for the Y.W.C.A. Meet at the Downtown "Y" lobby at 9:30 am Dec. 4th, 1111 S.W. 10th Ave. We need any trucks available also - your gas will be paid for. See ya there.



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*Dave Hansen*

Has Your Membership Expired?  
# 1162 Through # 1179 expire during Dec.!