

MRF MOTORCYCLE CLUB COMMITTEE POSITION PAPER

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has a long history of working with a diverse group of organizations and individuals in an effort to further the interests of all motorcyclists. The MRF endeavors to continue to work with all like minded groups on issues that serve the agendas of both groups. The MRF acknowledges the contributions of motorcycle clubs in the early development of the motorcyclists' rights movement more than 40 years ago. The MRF will continue to work with these clubs in actively monitoring federal legislation that compromises the ability of any motorcyclist to ride and live our associated lifestyle. Motorcycle clubs and motorcycle club Confederations' engagement with and support of the MRF is both recognized and appreciated.

In fact included in our 2010-2011 Federal Legislative Agenda is the statement that the "MRF will continue to watchdog all federally proposed "gang" legislation to prohibit any impact on motorcyclists for non criminal activity". It is particular concerning to the MRF that the Domestic Terrorist List of Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs has grown to over 330 clubs and the ambiguous nature of the definitions being used to classify clubs as such. This carries with it the certainty of discrimination and the profiling of motorcyclists, the MRF staunchly opposes these activities.

The MRF Motorcycle Club Committee feels strongly that there is a distinction that sets a motorcycle club apart from a gang. Motorcycle clubs have been in existence a long time and were initially formed out of a deep appreciation of motorcycling and the camaraderie that comes with being a member of a club, and that those same reasons still exists today.

The MRF maintains a full time office on Capital Hill in Washington D.C. just steps from the U.S. Capital and the Legislative Offices of the U.S. Congress. The MRF monitors every piece of legislation introduced that could possibly affect motorcyclists and within these pieces of legislation of immediate concern is any Bill that targets motorcycles unfairly or aims to classify law abiding motorcyclists as criminal gangs. This type of legislation will always be in the cross hairs of the MRF. In addition the MRF uses close personal relationships with Federal legislators, a vast network of grassroots activists which has proven time and again to be one of the best networks of citizen lobbyists in operation today, and the MRF utilizes a Federal Political Action Committee (PAC) to focus on maintaining and when necessary expanding the freedoms that motorcyclists have today.