



A.B.A.T.E. of Arizona, Inc.
7509 N 12th St #200
Phoenix, AZ 85020

March 5, 2008

United States Department of Transportation
USDOT Secretary Mary Peters
1200 New Jersey Ave SE, Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Peters:

ABATE of Arizona, Inc. is informing you that our members are in very strong opposition to your proposal that language of SAFETEA-LU be amended. We ask that you withdraw your recent request that was sent to the United States Senate and House of Representatives. National and State Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MROs), such as ABATE of Arizona, fought long and hard for the current legislation that makes these funds available.

Identifying and prioritizing motorcycle safety problem areas is an ongoing process in which ABATE of Arizona takes part. Like many other states, we find that the lack of motorist awareness of motorcycles on the roadway, impaired riders, and the need for rider skills training are key issues we need to address.

In Arizona, the 2010 grant funds are used to not only support motorcycle awareness events in both higher populated and rural areas, such as billboard campaigns, and an effective statewide program to enhance motorist awareness. Three issues being addressed are, rider skills training, riding impaired and improving motorist awareness.

Future plans of the Arizona Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council and the GOHS are to:

- . Work with other state government agencies to continue to identify motorcycle-motorist safety issues
- . Conduct Focus Groups, involving the public from urban as well as rural areas
- . Work with MVD and Arizona State Supreme Court to include motorcycle safety in driving classes
- . Collect and analyze crash data specific to motorcycles
- . Establish Speakers Bureau of experts in motorcycle safety to provide education to those requesting

ABATE of Arizona, Inc. is extremely disappointed that you would try to impose your personal beliefs based on an accident, which was in all respect an error in your judgment, to justify the amendment and the dilution of the states 2010 grant monies to promote helmet use. We all know that "safer crashes" are no substitute for "crash prevention".

ABATE of Arizona, Inc., as well as other Arizona State MROs, will be sending a delegation to Washington D.C. in the near future. We plan to speak with our Senators and Congressman stating our opposition to your requested amendment of the 2010 grants. We would like the opportunity to meet and speak with you personally as well to proactively move forward.

In the interim, our members will be contacting state and federal officials to discuss our opposition.

Respectfully,

Jon Goodwin
State President
ABATE of Arizona, Inc.
602-620-0110