

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION  
Position on Rider Education

Since the creation of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation in 1985, the MRF has been, and always will be, committed to representing the needs and desires of the street riding motorcyclist. The MRF serves as a voice in Washington, D.C. for State Motorcyclists Rights Organizations nationwide.

With specific regard to motorcycle safety and rider education, SMROs are directly responsible for most of the legislation that currently provides for state rider ed programs. The motorcyclists in many states recognized early on the value of accessible, quality rider education and lobbied at their own expense to develop programs that they knew would cost them money personally every time they renewed their registration. With that type of investment, many of these groups work directly with the state agency responsible, or through an advisory committee, to insure that the integrity of these programs is maintained. It is this grassroots involvement that is the greatest asset offered by the rights movement.

On the national level, in the spirit of representing the SMROs, the MRF has monitored activity related to rider ed nationally and state by state. There is continual communication between the MRF and the states to observe and evaluate the demands of the riders and the status of the system that is in place to meet those needs. The MRF had a seat at the table on the Technical Working Group in developing the National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety (NAMS). There are a number of rider education professionals now actively involved with the rights movement that have been instrumental in the development and delivery of several rider training programs. Excellent resources exist within the rights community to offer suggestions and provide alternatives to the current systems. The MRF is open to reviewing any number of potential enhancements including those from non-traditional partners.

The MRF has demonstrated its commitment to furthering motorcycle safety by attempting to provide incentives to programs that take measures to implement the recommendations of NAMS by offering the Murkowski amendment to proposed TEA reauthorization.

Motorcycle safety and awareness (including rider education) remain a top priority of the MRF in its efforts to preserve motorcycling for future generations.