

7th DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

DAVID R. OBEY

CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DISTRICT OFFICES:

FIRST STAR PLAZA
401 5TH STREET
SUITE 406A
WAUSAU, WI 54403-5468
PHONE: 715-842-5606

1401 TOWER AVENUE
SUITE 307
SUPERIOR, WI 54880-1553
PHONE: 715-398-4426

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4907

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AND EDUCATION

SELECT INTELLIGENCE
OVERSIGHT PANEL

DEMOCRATIC STEERING
AND POLICY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2314 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: 202-225-3365

November 6, 2007

www.obey.house.gov

Chairman Mark V. Rosenker
National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Chairman Rosenker:

I have been contacted by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) which has raised concerns with some recent motorcycle safety recommendations issued by the NTSB September 11th 2007. The MRF indicates that it is not so much the recommendations themselves it has a concern with but the way NTSB came up with them.

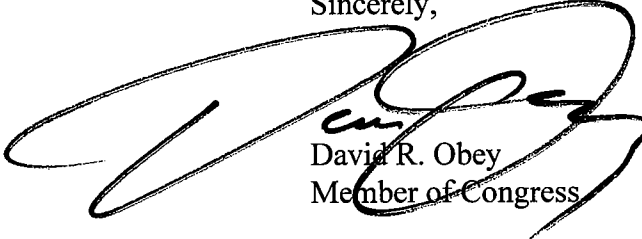
MRF says your board did attempt to identify areas of improvement in data collection and state safety programs. However, MRF says that it did so after boiling down the findings from a two day meeting in September 2006. Further, MRF says the recommendations are based on an investigation of just six motorcycle accidents over the NTSB's entire 40 year history.

MRF believes this is a good start to begin to understand motorcycle safety but when compared to the intense investigation of over 134,000 other accidents spread over other modes of transportation it hardly seems sufficient to begin issuing recommendations for state legislation.

MRF asks that you reconsider the recommendations issued and work further with the motorcycling community at large to develop a set of recommendations that is achievable and enhances the existing education, awareness and safety initiatives of the States.

I appreciate your interest in motorcycle safety and your thoughts on the MRF concerns.

Sincerely,



David R. Obey
Member of Congress