

Jim Hoops
81st Ohio House District

Finance
Commerce and Labor
Chair: Public Utilities



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**Ohio General Assembly
Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Jim Hoops**

September 21, 2021

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 338, which would make changes to the laws related to the motorcycle safety and education program.

H.B. 338 will further enhance motorcycle safety in the state of Ohio. Section 4508.08 of the Ohio Revised Code was amended in 2017 to allow “private organizations or corporations to offer any nationally recognized motorcycle operating training courses or curriculum and any course established in accordance with division (A)(1) of this section.” In other words this provision permits nationally recognized motorcycle operator training courses that meet the same standards to apply and teach in the Motorcycle Ohio program.

However, recent practice has required certified coaches to also maintain a separate Motorcycle Ohio instructor trainer certification. This dual certification requirement places an unintended and unnecessary burden on private provider instructors. Duplicative certification in the Motorcycle Ohio curriculum is an inefficient use of DPS and Motorcycle Ohio resources.

H.B. 338 would clarify that instructors of authorized nationally recognized motorcycle operator training courses offered by private providers are not required to be additionally certified as Motorcycle Ohio instructor trainers. The legislation further clarifies that such private providers are not required to have an end-of-course

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skills evaluation that includes the Motorcycle Ohio Basic Rider Skills (BRS) skills evaluation, if their existing certification meets or exceeds the Motorcycle Ohio BRS skills evaluation.

In addition after listening to funding concerns from ABATE and AMA, this legislation also increases funding for the Motorcycle Safety and Education Fund by establishing new private provider fees for the initial authorization of new training courses or curriculums for instructor certification.

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee, I thank you for your attention, and I ask for your favorable consideration of House Bill 338.