

A.B.A.T.E. Of Ohio. Inc.
P.O. Box 23701 Columbus, Ohio 43222
Dedicated to Freedom of The Road Since 1978

Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee

Written Testimony in Opposition of H.B. 338

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and Members of the House Transportation Committee

In 1988 the Motorcycle Ohio training program was created to provide affordable safety training to the motorcycle riders in Ohio. ABATE of Ohio, Inc. was a part of the group that developed the legislation that created the program, including its funding, and has been a stakeholder/supporter of the program ever since. Motorcycle Ohio has provided an effective affordable program for over 30 years, including developing the Motorcycle Ohio Rider Enhancement (MORE) program. ABATE of Ohio was in support of the new program to help address skills needed specific to riding in Ohio. This curriculum is also used in a neighboring state because of how effective it is.

ABATE of Ohio has several concerns with HB 338:

- Should an endorsement to operate a motorcycle in the State of Ohio be awarded without the oversight of Motorcycle Ohio and/or the BMV? Currently all motorcycle training sites that give out Endorsement Certificates are under the oversight of Motorcycle Ohio and/or the BMV.
- July 2021 the AMA, American Motorcyclist Association, published an article: **Orlando, Fla. – About 200 people who took a motorcycle endorsement training course two years ago** have received notice from the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles suspending their driver's licenses after it was discovered the course was not state approved. Many of the course graduates are upset, pointing out it was the state that accepted the certifications in the first place.
- As the technology involving a motorcycle and its interaction with the road and infrastructure changes, how are multiple training programs kept up to date? With Self driving cars and technology growing at such a rapid increase how can we keep the schools up to date without oversight. "The reason that Ohio left the MFS was they would not change fast enough." That's when we developed the MORE program.
- Motorcycle Ohio is currently a 3-person team that handles the monumental tasks of overseeing training the students, training the instructors, quality assurance, data collection and range compliance. Should Motorcycle Ohio be used to do this for multiple programs?

- If a one time “lifetime” fee enough to cover the lifetime cost of oversight?
- Over the last decades as Motorcycle ownership has increased, the number of injury accidents and deaths has gone down. Either measuring by vehicle miles traveled or as a percentage of riders on the road, these numbers have gone down. Effective training has proven to be a critical part of these declines.

Thank You for your time and consideration on this issue.

Mike Stock
Chairman of the Board
ABATE of Ohio, Inc.

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