

SB 745 Testimony

1 message

ABATE Webiste <abateofmdinc@gmail.com>

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To: abateofmdinc@gmail.com

SB 745 - Vehicle Laws - Protective Headgear Requirement for Motorcycle Riders - Exception

Support

I SUPPORT SB745 as it allows riders over the age of 21, that have been licensed for at least 2 years, or has completed a motorcycle safety course, the Freedom of Choice regarding helmets. This bill provides Maryland riders the Freedom of Choice that is enjoyed by 31 other states. It also allows riders from other states that same Freedom. I SUPPORT SB745 - Vehicle Laws – Protective Headgear Requirement for Motorcycle Riders – Exception. We urge the committee to consider a FAVORABLE vote, in support of our Freedom of Choice.

Chairman Smith and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I have attended and testified at approximately 15 hearings on the issue of Helmet Choice and have heard the opponents of choice continually preach doom and gloom that there will be a veritable bloodbath on our streets and highways and financial Armageddon of this bill passes. I have yet, after personally questioning these opponents, had one explain how 31 other states have not been bankrupted by this policy. I have also yet to have one give a sufficient explanation how a head injury from a motorcycle accident costs more that the same head injury from a bicycle accident, a skiing accident, or any other activity which does not require a helmet.

Also not addressed are the financial gains from tourism that a helmet choice state gains. Riders from Pennsylvania would not stop at the Mason-Dixon line and Maryland riders would stay in Maryland instead of flocking to Pennsylvania for their weekend rides. Riders from West Virginia and Virginia would bring their tourism dollars to Maryland just to enjoy freedom of choice.

Please pass this bill to the full Senate with a Favorable report and make Maryland truly that much more the "Free State"

Respectfully,
Steven P. Strohmier

Name

Steven Strohmier

Physical Address

322 Lay Road
Delta, PA
17314
US