



January 31, 2025

Bill: SB 0397 - Vehicle Laws- Protective Headgear Requirement for Motorcycle Riders-  
Exception

Position: SUPPORT

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I am the President of New Hampshire Motorcyclists' Rights Organization and a member of ABATE of Maryland.

I am writing in support of SB 0397. There are currently 31 states that allow adults to make the choice of helmet use. This bill would give the riders of Maryland the right to choose.

I also chair the NH Motorcycle Safety Task Force, and we dive into the data and statistics of crashes and fatalities. The data does not show that helmet use should be mandated. We believe that educating riders is a far better way to help them make the right choices based on their experience.

SB 0397 recognizes that this choice belongs to the individual motorcyclist.

Using Statistics to Support Helmet Laws is very misleading and does not give the actual data on the causation of death, only that the rider was not wearing a helmet. The real data is in the reports that are done afterwards and what we

see is that most of the deaths are caused by internal injuries, not lack of helmet use.

I ask that you consider supporting this bill and allowing the adult rider with the education to make an informed decision for themselves on helmet use.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

*Traci Beaurivage*

President

New Hampshire Motorcyclists' Right Organization