

ABATE REGION 19

June 4, 2020

We at Region 19 hope everyone is still doing OK and wish you good health. Look on our Facebook account for the latest news.

As I write this it seems that there is finally light at the end of the tunnel in that the Stay-at-Home initiative will be lifted starting June 8. I still can't get my hair cut, but as I don't have a whole lot of hair, that does not matter so much to me.

As things open up, remember to support your local businesses as much as possible. We need to ensure that Michigan remains financially healthy.

I know I said it last month but it bears repeating: Remember when you are riding that car drivers will have a lot more on their minds than just watching out for us, so be really vigilant. They probably will not be watching out for motorcycles, so the burden is on us, like always but even more so.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – As Pete posted on Facebook, you can still contact your Senators about SB528 and get them to support it. The SB1 insurance bill really dealt us a low blow that we have to fix.

Legislative Officer for Region 19 is open. Please think about volunteering; don't worry, we will help you!!

AMA: A draft proposal of the federal transportation reauthorization circulating among congressional staff members would remove incentives for states to fund motorcycle training and awareness programs. Currently, states must meet two of six criteria to qualify for motorcyclist safety grants from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Having a training program and a motorcyclist awareness program are two of the six. The draft proposal would add a seventh category, mandatory helmet laws for minors, which already are required 48 states. So, the new option would provide states with the opportunity to defund training or awareness and still qualify for the federal grant money. With states desperately searching for revenue in the wake of the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, the AMA is concerned that lawmakers will siphon money from those important motorcycle programs.

BIKE RAFFLE: tickets are available via mail

AWARENESS: We will try to have a Motorcycle Awareness event but it won't be until July.

Freedom Rally was cancelled.

Field Meet: cancelled.

Minutes by Vince P.