

Region 11 Meeting

July 31, 2019

- Meeting called to order
- The Pledge of Allegiance
- Treasury report read by Patty;

Legislation:

ABATE Priorities for 2019 Legislative Session:

1. **The Equal Justice/Danny Yensch** bill, would require mandatory jail time/community service/mandatory fines when car drivers are at-fault in a car/motorcycle accident that kills a motorcyclist. Too many motorcyclists are being killed by distracted drivers who serve no jail time, and pay minimal restitution. We need reps to sponsor/co-sponsor the legislation.
2. A bill to allow lane filtering. Lane filtering is NOT “lane splitting”; it is being able to move up between the lanes when in stopped traffic at construction zones, red lights, etc. Lane filtering allows for motorcyclists to be safer (less chance of being rear-ended) when stopped in traffic.
3. A bill to set up the Motorcycle Advisory Council (or board, or committee) consisting of a set number of active motorcyclists to advise various government bodies on issues of importance to motorcyclists. A board/committee modeled after the numerous citizen boards already in existence, like the Snowmobile Advisory Board.

Grab a Citizen’s Guide, and contact your legislators and see if any of them are interested in sponsoring or co-sponsoring one of these bills.

Contacted Phil Pavlov on Tuesday evening to inquire about him running for Paul Mitchell’s seat; Paul is not seeking re-election to the federal House of Representatives, 10th District. Mr. Pavlov told me he is looking at running, and I told him we’d be there to help him win it, if he decides to run. Phil Pavlov is the state Senator who got the helmet bill through the state legislature and won us the freedom to choose. He would be a great asset to us at the federal level and would be a big help getting a federal anti-profiling bill going.

Current Bill:

HB4812 – Insurance priority – Bill changes the order of priority for insurers to pay, in the event of a motorcycle/car accident. Currently, the new law only provides for coverage up to the PIP liability amount chosen by the car driver. HB4812 makes the motorcyclist's motorcycle insurance the FIRST priority in an accident; means if the motorcyclist chooses to carry unlimited PIP on his motorcycle insurance policy, that policy would pay first in the event of an accident; not the policy of the car driver. It is imperative we get this bill passed before July 2020, when new law takes effect. Know that insurance companies will fight this. Bill was introduced 7.18.19, read a first time and sent to the Committee on Insurance.

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS

At the end of May, SOS Jocelyn Benson, held 2 press conferences; one in Grand Rapids, and one at Cadillac Place in Detroit to publicize the new MOTORCYCLES ARE HARD TO SEE. LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE, state motorcycle awareness campaign. So far, I haven't seen or heard even one PSA on this "new" campaign. I would like to see folks contact SOS Joyclen Benson and ask her why there hasn't been anything out there, and the summer is almost over.

- Meeting Adjourned