

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-1171.01 Owen Colling x4338

SJR17-038

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Tate,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carver and Ginal,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-038

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 2017 AS "MOTORCYCLE**
102 **SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH".**

1 WHEREAS, The month of May marks the traditional start of the
2 motorcycle riding season; and

3 WHEREAS, Motorcycles occupy a significant place in Colorado
4 and American history, having made contributions to numerous military
5 campaigns, law enforcement operations, and the culture of the American
6 West; and

7 WHEREAS, Over 8 million motorcycles are registered in the
8 United States, with over 190,000 registered in Colorado, and are used on
9 public roads and highways, providing reliable day-to-day transportation
10 and recreational opportunities; and

*Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 WHEREAS, Because of their light weight, fuel efficiency, and low
2 impact on our highways, motorcycle use should be encouraged as a viable
3 transportation alternative; and

4 WHEREAS, Motorcycles take up less space on our highways and
5 parking areas thus reducing traffic congestion; and

6 WHEREAS, Motorcyclists are provided legal access to federally
7 funded High Occupancy Vehicle lanes for increasing traffic flow while
8 giving motorcyclists a safer environment for travel; and

9 WHEREAS, Riders and passengers of motorcycles face countless
10 hazards and unforeseen circumstances on the road; and

11 WHEREAS, 125 motorcyclists were killed on Colorado roadways
12 last year; and

13 WHEREAS, State and national "Share the Road" campaigns have
14 been created to remind drivers of other vehicles and all motorists to be
15 extra alert in order to increase motorcyclists' safety; and

16 WHEREAS, Studies show that many motorcyclists involved in
17 accidents were without formal rider training; and

18 WHEREAS, Many causes of motorcycle crashes may be attributed
19 to lack of experience or failure to appreciate the unique operating
20 characteristics and limitations of motorcycles, as well as the failure of
21 other motorists to share the road with motorcyclists; and

22 WHEREAS, The motorcycling community has made an ongoing
23 commitment to increasing awareness of appropriate safety measures, and
24 increased participation in rider-training programs; and

25 WHEREAS, Many rider-training programs are offered throughout
26 Colorado, both for beginner and experienced riders to prepare them to
27 operate a motorcycle in the safest possible manner; and

28 WHEREAS, Rider education, training, and motorcycle awareness
29 are important steps in motorcycle accident prevention; now, therefore,

30 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly*

1 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

2 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,
3 recognize and designate May 2017 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness
4 Month" to promote safety for all motorcycle riders through education and
5 training and to encourage all motorists to "share the road" in Colorado.

6 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
7 to Lieutenant Governor Donna Lynne; the American Motorcyclist
8 Association; the Motorcycle Riders Foundation; ABATE of Colorado; the
9 Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Colorado district; Thunder Roads
10 Colorado magazine; Motorcycle Rider News; BMW Motorcycle Owners
11 of America; the Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.); the Powersports Dealers
12 Association of Colorado; the Colorado Confederation of Clubs and the
13 Coalition of Independent Riders; and the Colorado Motorcycle Trail
14 Riders Association.