

Monthly Legislative Update for Chatham County CBA

February 2008

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I attended the Legislative Coordinators Quarterly Committee meeting on 1/12/08 along with Cat, Mohan, Burnie, Greg and Wygant. I was very happy to see Greg, Burnie and Wygant come along for the ride and observe the committee meeting. The only way to see first hand what the CBA does is to attend committee meetings and state meetings. I appreciated their company.

Doc Ski, our State Legislative Director chairs the LC committee meetings. He talked about our legislative agenda for the 2008 short legislative session. Cindy Hodges is our MRF State Rep and she discussed our federal legislative agenda. Susan Huttman is the Chairperson of the CBA's Helmet Citation Defense Project (HCDP). She gave us an update on the program. She created rack cards for us to give out to local bike shops. I have 100 of them and will be handing them out. The cards describe the HCDP program and details where to get help if you get a helmet ticket. I am the HCDP liaison for Chatham CBA so please let me know if you get a ticket. Also see the CBA's HCDP web page for more info:

http://www.cba-abatenc.org/helmet_citation.htm

State agenda for 2008:

Nurture the NC HCDP

Search for a sponsor for our helmet law repeal bill for the next legislative session that starts in Jan 2009.

Attend Lobby Day on May 28, 2008

Continue to lobby on SB 375 (see below)

Continue to lobby on SB 1324/HB-274 (see below)

Continue to lobby on SB 1121 (see below)

Seek sponsor for anti-discrimination bill

Work with Rep. Dewey Hill to increase failure to yield Right-of-Way (ROW) penalties

Federal agenda for 2008:

Continue to lobby on HIPAA, Right-to-Repair act and anti-discrimination legislation.

State Issues:

- **No change in Gang Bill (HB 275)** (A bill that would turn the CCCBA and other motorcycle groups into "gangs") The bill was heard in the Senate Judiciary II Committee Tuesday morning, 7-3-07. The sponsor of the bill, Senator Graham was not available for the meeting and although many questions remained unanswered, the bill was pushed through the committee with the justification that it would be still have to be considered by two more committees prior to reaching the floor of the Senate for discussion (Finance and Appropriations). Watch Doc's blog for updates:

<http://docskivnv.bravejournal.com/>

- **No change in Lerner's Permit Bill (SB 375):** (A bill that will shorten the time a person has to learn to ride and increase the renewal fees from \$10 to \$50) We oppose this bill. The bill passed the Senate. It currently has been sitting in the House Transportation Committee since May 15th. Stay tuned for future action alerts concerning this bill.

- **No change in UNC Motorcycle Safety Study Bill (SB 1121)** (A bill to fund a motorcycle crash study at UNC) This bill is currently sitting in the finance committee. The problem with this bill is that several bikers have complained about the \$2 increase to our MC registrations that will fund this center. Bikers, including CBA members are not united on this bill and we are sending different messages to the sponsors of this bill. This bill will die unless we become united.

Federal Issues:

- **NO CHANGE - HIPAA Loophole** – We have already contacted our legislators on this issue. We will continue to monitor this issue.

News Items:

- **CALIFORNIA INSTALLS FIRST-EVER STOP SIGN CAMERAS** - While red light and speed cameras are creeping into our traffic system, California has installed the first-ever automated camera in the U.S. designed to ticket drivers who make "boulevard stops" or slow to a crawl at a stop sign without fully ceasing forward motion. The little-known Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority has begun issuing \$100 fines long Franklin Canyon in the heart of Los Angeles, located off of Mulholland Drive, and another at the top of Topanga.