

# Legislative Update for Chatham County CBA – July 2012

Vinny Neuman – Legislative Coordinator – NCRider2010@gmail.com (919) 522-4922 www.NCRider.com

## NC State Issues:

**CBA/ABATE LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CBA/ABATE of NC achieved some notable legislative victories in the 2011-2012 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly, including:**

**H 113. MOTORCYCLE SAFETY ACT [SL2011-361]** - Increased the fine for a failure to provide right of way that causes a motorcyclist to change travel lanes or leave its travel lane to not less than \$200.00 and not less than \$500.00 if the violation results in property damage or personal injury to the motorcycle operator or passenger. This bill was introduced at the request of and was actively supported by CBA/ABATE of NC.

**S 381. CHECKING STATION PATTERN SELECTION [SL2011-216]** - Prevents law enforcement agencies from establishing patterns for vehicle stops at checking stations based on a particular type of vehicle while still allowing the designation of any type of commercial motor vehicle and without restricting any other type of checkpoint or roadblock that is otherwise lawful. This bill was actively supported by CBA/ABATE of NC and was a major victory in the battle to protect motorcyclists against discriminatory profiling by law enforcement agencies.

**S 339. MODIFY DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM [SL2011-334]** – Provides that the driver education requirements shall include at least one hour of motorcycle safety awareness training. This bill was actively supported by CBA/ABATE of NC and ensures that driver education across the State will include this much needed training.

**H 673. STREET GANG NUISANCE ABATEMENT [SL2012-28]** - Provides that law enforcement agencies may use local nuisance abatement ordinances to combat criminal activity by street gangs, but does not change the existing statutory definition of "street gang", "criminal street gang", or "criminal street gang activity". Those terms already are defined in Article 13A of the North Carolina General Statutes, often referred to as the "North Carolina Street Gang Suppression Act" enacted in 2008 as Chapter SL2008-214 of the North Carolina Session Laws. CBA/ABATE actively monitored this legislation and successfully kept the definition of "street gang" and "criminal street gang" from being expanded to include any specific reference to motorcycle clubs or organizations.

**S 895. DOT DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES LEG. REQUESTS [SL2012-85]** - Among other things, this legislation amends the statutes related to motorcycle licenses to remove specific mention of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course or Experienced Rider Course as an accepted course of instruction regarding fulfillment of the requirements for a motorcycle endorsement. CBA/ABATE of NC actively tracked this legislation and successfully precluded any amendments adverse to the motorcycling community.

**The General Assembly is scheduled to convene the 2013 session at noon on 30 January 2013, and you can rest assured that CBA/ABATE of NC will be there to once again protect the rights of motorcyclists.**

### IMPORTANT NC DATES:

General Election: 6 November 2012

**Awareness is our best defense. Please stay involved legislatively.**

