

Sometimes you just need to ask....

Last September a member of ABATE of Wisconsin Kenosha County went to the 26th annual MRF Meeting of the Minds in Illinois. Meeting of the Minds is designed to educate and motivate those in the motorcyclists' rights community, and it's a great way to gather ideas from other SMRO to see what's working and what's not working in other states. He brought several ideas back to Kenosha County, and we really liked the idea of the "Look Twice - Save a Life" with a motorcyclist road sign. After working out the details of getting the signs made we decided to start with the Town of Randall in Kenosha County. ABATE members of Kenosha County gave a formal presentation at their Public Works meeting and then Town Board Meeting. The Town Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of four signs and to send a letter of recommendation to Kenosha County to also place these signs on county roads. It helped that the members of ABATE of Wisconsin Kenosha County believed in the message of these signs that the region thru fundraising and donations paid for the signs and was able to get the cost of installation donated, so there was no cost to the Town of Randall. Our goal is to get these signs in every town, village, city and county road, and eventually the state. Angela E. Mercer - 1J Kenosha County Region Rep



ABATE Members L-R - Mike 1J/ Angie 1J/ Freebird 1J/ Karen 1F

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States Combat Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints

Calling motorcycle-only roadblocks discriminatory and unconstitutional, ABATE of California is pushing a bill that would ban state and federal funding of such so-called "safety checkpoints".

New York and Georgia have initiated roadside barricades under the auspices and guidance of NHTSA to coral motorcycle riders en route to major motorcycle events to check paperwork and equipment for violations, and for other illegal activity.

AB 1047, authored by Kevin Jeffries, Vice Chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee, would prohibit the CA Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) from issuing grants to law enforcement agencies to stage Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints and also require the OTS to conduct audits of the safety checkpoint grants to insure that law enforcement is complying.

Similarly, North Carolina is currently considering two bills (H375 & H381) aimed at preventing law enforcement agencies from establishing patterns for vehicle stops at checking stations based on a particular type of vehicle.

In Congress, Rep. Tom Petri (R-WI) and some of his colleagues have authored legislation to de-fund the checkpoints. US House Resolution 904 would prevent the US DOT from providing funds to states which would be used for motorcycle roadblocks. Motorcyclists across the country are also awaiting a court ruling on the constitutionality of the New York checkpoints, being challenged by N.Y. Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) Attorney Mitch Proner, which could wind up on the docket of the U.S. Supreme Court.

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**Saturday & Sunday June 4th & 5th**

**Saturday**  
 Graybeards Freedom Fighters Kids Ride  
 Ride with Senator Dave Zien, The Million Mile Man & Tony (Pan) Sanfelipo, Founder of ABATE of Wisconsin  
 Hosted by Friends of ABATE - 100-Mile Celebrity Poker Run  
 Starting at Headliners Bar & Grill (City: Il & Towne CT. Rd. in Neenah, WI)  
 Registration 9am - 11am • Arriving at South Park 5pm (South Park Ave & Georgia St. in Oshkosh, WI)  
 \$15 per person - \$25 per couple • Cash Prizes for Best Poker Hands

Free Entertainment • Open to Public at end of the ride  
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**Sunday**  
 Fox Valley Motorcycle Show & Swapmeet  
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