

**POLICY RESOLUTION PR-25-06**  
**TITLE: MOTORCYCLE SAFETY INITIATIVE**

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**WHEREAS:** Motorcycle fatalities increased for the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row and continue to be over-represented in traffic crashes; and

**WHEREAS:** Motorcycle fatalities increased 13 percent to 4,553 total deaths in 2005 and by 115 percent since 1997; and

**WHEREAS:** A motorcycle rider is 37 percent more likely to survive a crash by wearing a helmet and helmet laws are a key element in preventing fatal and serious injuries; and

**WHEREAS:** Only 20 states currently have helmet laws that apply to all riders and these laws continue to be challenged in state legislatures each year; and

**WHEREAS:** A comprehensive motorcycle safety program addressing state approved rider training curricula for all skill levels, impaired riding, personal protective equipment, motorcycle conspicuity, motorcycle safety technology, vehicle and rider licensing, identification of roadway hazards, consideration of motorcycle friendly design, construction and maintenance procedures, and share the road initiatives holds promise to reduce the motorcycle crash problem; and

**WHEREAS:** Motorcycle helmet usage has shown to be the most effective single measure to reduce the number of deaths and serious injury of motorcyclists;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety fully supports and offers our assistance to the collective efforts of the National Transportation Safety Board, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Governors Highway Safety Association, and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators to encourage states to implement comprehensive motorcycle safety programs and adopt all-rider motorcycle helmet laws thus reducing the number of fatal and serious motorcycle crashes in our nation.