

Honorable Senator Mike Peterson
Chair – Senate Transportation Committee
Room 546-S
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Senator Peterson,

This letter is regarding **Senate Bill No. 17** (SB17). This Bill will close a loophole in licensing requirements that allows improperly licensed drivers to operate a motorcycle on Kansas roadways without an “M” endorsement.

Statistically, of all motorcyclists involved in crashes in Kansas, approximately 50% of them are not properly licensed. This percentage may fluctuate from year to year, but, historically it remains at approximately 50%, including fatality accidents involving motorcycles. I believe the requirement that all persons operating a motorcycle be properly licensed, including the “M” endorsement, is a critical step towards reducing the accident rate among motorcyclists in Kansas. This includes the minimum of possessing at least an “M” endorsement Learners Permit when they purchase their motorcycle. It is true that other steps should be undertaken. However, as a first step, having everyone operating a motorcycle properly licensed begins the work of reducing the motorcycle accident rate in Kansas.

I would like to urge your support of SB17 and ask that the Bill be favorably passed out of committee to the Senate for vote.

Thank You for hearing my concern on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mike

Michael Bright
25 Main Street
Petrolia, KS 66720-5264
620-212-3270

Member – Kansas Motorcycle Safety Committee
Charter Life Member – American Motorcyclist Association