



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Illinois is a national leader in motorcycle education and safety; and,

WHEREAS, in 1976, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) found that motorcycle ridership was increasing, as were the number of crashes and fatalities involving motorcycles; and,

WHEREAS, research indicated that motorcycle riders involved in crashes were essentially without training; 92 percent were self-taught or learned from family or friends. Formal motorcycle rider training was found to reduce both crash involvement and the severity of injuries in the event of a crash; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of these findings, the Cycle Rider Safety Training Program was developed to reduce the incidence of motorcycle crashes in Illinois. Specific objectives in reaching this goal included increasing and improving the formalized training offered to Illinois motorcycle riders and heightening public awareness of motorcycle operators and safety issues; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation has been conducting the Illinois Cycle Rider Safety Training program since 1976; and,

WHEREAS, for more than three decades now, IDOT's Cycle Rider Safety Training Program has functioned as a national model for motorcycle safety programs; and,

WHEREAS, the program is supported by state motorcycle registration fees and has been responsible for training more than 308,000 cyclists; and,

WHEREAS, better rider education, licensing and public awareness lead to safer motorcycling; and,

WHEREAS, sharing a roadway is where motorist awareness starts. The Illinois Department of Transportation urges all motor vehicle drivers to expect to see more motorcyclists riding in traffic in spring and summer months and to respect that they rightfully enjoy the same access to the roads as other traffic:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 2011 as **MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all drivers to help keep our roadways safe through proper motorist awareness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,
this SECOND *day of* MARCH, *in*
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
ELEVEN, *and of the State of Illinois*
the one hundred and NINETY-THIRD

Jesse White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR