



CALL TO ACTION

Help ABATE of Florida's Stiffer Penalties Bill in Florida's House of Representatives!!!

Deland, March 23, 2011 - Although ABATE of Florida, Inc. members have been busy calling and e-mailing Florida Representative Drake to get our "Stiffer Penalties" Bill, HB 403, on the agenda of the House Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee, at this point he has not placed it to be heard. We all know how important it is to get HB 403 heard and passed by this committee, because if not, it will die regardless of what happens in the Florida Senate with its version.

ABATE of Florida's Lobbyist, Doc Reichenbach, is busy up in Tallahassee with talks generating additional support for our Bill. Even though our Bill has a lot of support, we can still do a big part by keeping the phones busy and e-mails flying. Darrin "Scribe" Brooks, ABATE's Legislative Trustee, mentioned that he has been told by many legislators' offices this week they have been contacted by several ABATE members about supporting our Bill.

We have asked a lot from the ABATE membership over the past two weeks, but we need your help again! This time we need to focus our calls on the OTHER members of the House Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee. If we can get enough people to call and e-mail them about HB 403, maybe they will convince Rep. Drake to put our Bill on the Subcommittee's agenda so the bikers will stop calling!

When contacting the Representatives, here's an example of what to say; "My name is _____, I am a member of ABATE of Florida, the state's largest motorcyclists' rights organization. I am calling to ask for Rep. ____ help with HB 403. It is scheduled to go to the House Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee, however, we are having trouble getting it placed onto the Subcommittee's agenda. I was hoping that since Rep. _____ is a member of that committee they could help us get it heard. Thank you very much."

Scribe said that most of the Representatives' offices he spoke with stated they already know about ABATE and our Lobbyist, which shows some of the presence we have at Florida's capital. One Representative from the Jacksonville area said they already knew about our Bill from the ABATE members visiting him recently.

Here are the House Transportation and Highway Safety Subcommittee Members and what area they are from. Please give them a call and drop them an email asking them to get our HB403 put on the committee's agenda to be heard ASAP!

Subcommittee Member	Email	Phone #	Area
Rep. Irving Slosberg	irving.slosberg@myfloridahouse.gov	850.488.1302	Boca Raton
Rep. Janet Adkins	janet.adkins@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-6920	Fernandina Beach
Rep. Larry Ahern	larry.ahern@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-6197	St. Pete

Rep. Ben Albritton	ben.albritton@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-9465	Bartow
Rep. Frank Artiles	frank.artiles@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-9550	Miami
Rep. Lori Berman	lori.berman@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-1662	Delray Beach
Rep. Doug Broxson	doug.broxson@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-8188	Milton
Rep. Jeff Clemens	jeff.clemens@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-0260	Lake Worth
Rep. Mike Horner	mike.horner@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-8992	Kissimmee
Rep. Peter Nehr	peter.nehr@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-5580	Tarpon Springs
Rep. Darryl Rouson	darryl.rouson@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-0925	St. Pete
Rep. Richard Steinberg	richard.steinberg@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-0690	Miami Beach
Rep. Mike Weinstein	mike.weinstein@myfloridahouse.gov	850-488-1304	Jacksonville

ABATE of Florida's Stiffer Penalties Bill's Progress in the Florida Senate (SB608)

SB 608 continues to roll through the Senate as it passes the Senate Criminal Justice Committee with a vote of 5 – 0. ABATE of Florida's Lobbyist recently testified again before the committee. You can listen to the pod-cast of the meeting at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/Show/CJ>; click on the pod cast link for the 3/22/2011 meeting. Our Bill comes up at the 1 hour and 9 minute mark in the program, so you may just skip to that section if you wish.

Doc said that the Senators commented that they have received HUNDREDS of calls from ABATE members about this bill. Our voice is being heard in the Senate and we thank each one of you that have called and/or sent an e-mail to the legislators. We have to keep this ball rolling until our Bill finally passes.

After that, we can start calling the Governor!!!

SB 608 will now be heard in the Senate Budget Committee. This committee is HUGE with 20 Senators sitting on it, so there is a good chance that your Senator will be on this one. As you know, a constituent calling to ask for support carries a little more weight.

Here are the Members of the Senate Budget Committee. Let's let them hear our voice!!!

Sen. JD Alexander (Chair)	alexander.jd.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5044
Sen. Joe Negron (Vice Chair)	Negron.joe.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5088
Sen. Thad Altman	altman.thad.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5053
Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto	benacquisto.lizbeth.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5356
Sen. Ellyn Bogdanoff	bogdanoff.ellyn.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5100
Sen. Mike Fasano	fasano.mike.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5062
Sen. Anitere Flores	flores.anitere.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5130
Sen. Don Gaetz	gaetz.don.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5009
Sen. Alan Hays	hays.alan.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5014
Sen. Arthenia Joyner	joyner.arthenia.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5059

Sen. Evelyn Lynn	lynn.evelyn.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5033
Sen. Gwen Margolis	margolis.gwen.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5121
Sen. Bill Montford	montford.bill.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5004
Sen. Nan Rich	rich.nan.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5103
Sen. Garrett Richter	richter.garrett.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5124
Sen. David Simmons	simmons.david.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5050
Sen. Gary Siplin	siplin.gary.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5190
Sen. Eleanor Sobel	sobel.eleanor.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5097
Sen. John Thrasher	thrasher.john.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5030
Sen. Stephan Wise	wise.stephan.web@flsenate.gov	850-487-5027

Mailing: ABATE of Florida, Inc., PO Box 2520, Deland, FL 32721-2520

Physical: ABATE of Florida, Inc., 332 S. Woodland Blvd., DeLand, FL

On the Web: www.abateflorida.com

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