

**Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R16-1248.01 Vanessa Cleaver x4636

**SJR16-038**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Tate and Todd,**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-038**

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 2016 AS "MOTORCYCLE**  
102 **SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH".**

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1           WHEREAS, The month of May marks the traditional start of the  
2 motorcycle riding season; and

3           WHEREAS, Motorcycles occupy a significant place in United  
4 States history, having made contributions to numerous military  
5 campaigns, law enforcement operations, and the culture of the American  
6 West; and

7           WHEREAS, Over 8 million motorcycles are registered in the  
8 United States, with over 180,000 registered in Colorado, and are used on  
9 public roads and highways, providing weekend recreation as well as  
10 reliable day-to-day transportation; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1           WHEREAS, Operators and occupants of motorcycles and  
2 automobiles alike face countless dangers and unforeseen circumstances  
3 on the road; and

4           WHEREAS, State and national "share the road" campaigns have  
5 been created to remind drivers of all other vehicles and all road users to  
6 safely share the road with motorcyclists and to be extra alert in order to  
7 increase motorcyclists' safety; and

8           WHEREAS, As of 2014, there were 4,295 motorcycle fatalities in  
9 the United States, accounting for 13% of all motor vehicle-related deaths  
10 that year; and

11           WHEREAS, In Colorado, from 2012 to 2014, there were over 250  
12 motorcycle fatalities; and

13           WHEREAS, Approximately 15% of motorcycle crashes that result  
14 in hospitalization in the state take place in nontraffic situations, such as  
15 in parking lots, driveways, on nonpublic roadways, or off-road; and

16           WHEREAS, Many causes of motorcycle crashes may be attributed  
17 to lack of experience or failure to appreciate the inherent operating  
18 characteristics and limitations of a motorcycle, as well as the failure of  
19 other highway users to "share the road" with motorcyclists; and

20           WHEREAS, According to a study conducted by the University of  
21 Southern California, the Hurt Report, funded by the Department of  
22 Transportation's National Highway of Traffic Safety Administration,  
23 motorcycle riders involved in accidents were largely without formal  
24 training, with 92% being self-taught riders; and

25           WHEREAS, In response to such dangers to motorists, the  
26 motorcycling community has made an ongoing commitment to increasing  
27 awareness of appropriate safety measures and participation in  
28 rider-training programs; and

29           WHEREAS, The Motorcycle Safety Foundation, a national  
30 not-for-profit organization, developed the curriculum for the Motorcycle  
31 Operator Safety Training program, which is offered throughout Colorado,  
32 for both beginner and experienced riders to prepare them to ride a  
33 motorcycle in the safest possible manner; and

1           WHEREAS, Rider education and training and motorcycle  
2 awareness are important steps in motorcycle accident prevention; now,  
3 therefore,

4           *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*  
5 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

6           That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,  
7 recognize and designate May 2016 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness  
8 Month" to promote safety for all motorcycle riders through education and  
9 training and to encourage all motorists to "share the road" in Colorado.

10           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
11 to Lieutenant Governor Joe Garcia; the American Motorcyclist  
12 Association; the Motorcycle Riders Foundation; ABATE of Colorado; the  
13 Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Colorado district; Thunder Roads  
14 Colorado magazine; Motorcycle Rider News; BMW Motorcycle Owners  
15 of America; the Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.); the Powersports Dealers  
16 Association of Colorado; and the Colorado Motorcycle Trail Riders  
17 Association.