



February 15, 2011

The Honorable Nathan Deal
Governor of Georgia
203 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Governor Deal:

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) requests you suspend the implementation of the National Highway Transportation Administration's (NHTSA) Motorcycle Law Enforcement Demonstration grant (DTNH22-10-R-00386). The grant was awarded to the Georgia Department of Public Safety and was the only state to receive this grant in the amount of \$70,000 for fiscal year 2010. The AMA urges you to suspend the implementation of the program until questions raised by the motorcycling community have been addressed.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate of the motorcycling community. It represents the interests of millions of motorcyclists and motorcycle enthusiasts nationwide. Our mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

The AMA first sent questions to former Governor Sonny Perdue in written form on October 26, 2010. The same questions are as follows: 1) How do motorcycle-only checkpoints (MOCs) increase the safety of motorcyclists? 2) Where does the state of Georgia draw their authority to conduct MOCs? 3) Will "probable cause" be required to stop a motorcycle under the terms of this grant program? 4) If so, what will constitute "probable cause?" 5) What types of infractions will be recorded by law enforcement officials at these traffic stops? And, 6) what criteria will be used to measure the success of the MOCs?

The safety of motorcyclists is better served by efforts that minimize injuries and fatalities by preventing crashes from occurring in the first place. The most efficient way of doing so is with driver and rider awareness training and not through sporadic and discriminatory roadside checkpoints.

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Again, please suspend the implementation of the NHTSA's Motorcycle Law Enforcement Demonstration grant (DTNH22-10-R-00386) awarded to the Georgia Department of Public Safety.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your timely response. Should you have any questions or request additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 202-742-4301 or by e-mail at emoreland@ama-cycle.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward Moreland", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Edward Moreland
Senior Vice President, Government Relations