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May 23, 2017

Senator Floyd Prozanski  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary  
900 Court Street N.E., S-415  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 2598

Dear Chairman Prozanski and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate of the motorcycling community. We represent the interests of millions of on- and off-highway motorcyclists. Our mission is to promote the motorcycling lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

One recommendation in the National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety (US DOT HS 809156, November 2000) is "Appropriate sanctions should be applied to those found guilty of contributing to motorcycle crashes."

The AMA requests your support for H.B. 2598, which expands the offense of vehicular assault to include contact with a motorcycle, motorcycle operator or motorcycle passenger. All too often, existing laws do not take into account the difference between property damage and actual physical harm suffered by victims of crashes caused by reckless roadway users. Vulnerable roadway users such as motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians are at a distinct disadvantage in collisions with larger motorized vehicles.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you wish to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Haris', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Nicholas Haris  
Western States Representative