

RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE MOTORCYCLISTS TO WEAR HELMETS IN CALIFORNIA

We, the Members of the City Of Amador City hereby
subscribe:

Whereas, In California motorcycles account for only three percent of all passenger-carrying vehicles but are involved in 12 percent of accidents; and

Whereas, The chances for injury or death in a motorcycle accident are up to 17 times higher than in a car accident; and

Whereas, In 1984 alone California Highway Patrol statistics show that 26,511 motorcyclists were injured, and of those injured 3,766 had severe injuries; and

Whereas, The average hospital bill of an injured motorcyclist is conservatively estimated at more than \$17,000 per individual, and "indirect costs" such as lost wages and physical rehabilitation usually are double the direct costs; and

Whereas, Biker injuries cost the taxpayers more than \$65 million a year for hospital bills alone, based on the number of injuries in 1984; and

Whereas, Studies show that California taxpayers are paying more than 80 percent of the costs incurred by injured motorcyclists; and

Whereas, We are concerned about the enormous financial cost to the taxpayers and the unmeasurable emotional cost to victims in loss of human lives and suffering caused by motorcycle accidents; and

Whereas, Implementation of the 1986 Seat Belt Law requiring mandatory seat belt usage in automobiles traveling in California established a precedent that declares when the state has a vested interest in paying costs it is entirely appropriate and prudent for the state to protect itself;

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved,
that we, the Members of the City of Amador City
do hereby urge the California Legislature to enact
legislation that requires California motorcyclists to
wear safety helmets.