I know you will Richard!! I’ve made some small corrections/changes - see what you think of this? Also, I wonder if you want to be focusing on the 40-50 year olds - someone may come up with a crazy idea that younger people shouldn’t be riding!! LOL!

As we look around the State of Minnesota we find most of the Organizations had no idea that this Law and its rules were even being brought to the floor. I believe that these (listed below) organizations should also have had a chance to voice their concerns on many of the issues and concerns that are being discussed here today. I am here to speak for most of them today.

Safety is very important to all of us that organize a ride for our Charities, or are having our weekly fun ride. I personally am not opposed to Road Guard Safety Training, as long as the cost is not outside the limits of the organizations. Getting trained and certified to make us legal to stop traffic is not an objection to any of us. Much of what we are here to cover today could and would put many of our organizations out of the business of helping our charities.

Most of these organization raise funds for Disabled Veterans, Veterans Families, deployed military, and those who are physically or mentally challenged - our most vulnerable. We raise funds for Disabled Hunts and fishing trips as well as outdoor events for these same individuals. I for one am Very Proud to live in Minnesota, as they are the one State that has always done what they can for those less fortunate or who defend & uphold our freedoms. Are we going to take that away from them by overdoing these laws and rules?

The additional liability insurance for the ride and for the road guards would be enough to put a good share of upstanding organizations out in
the cold. Then add the cost of signs which are not cheap and many would need to be purchased to perform our rides, special clothing attire, adding expense to push a few more groups out. Add in radio communication, most of us already use a cell phone. Personally I feel singled out and offended because many are over the age of fifty. We all have a legal motorcycle endorsement and liability insurance which gives us the right to ride our highways. We over the age of fifty are not old and still love to ride. God Bless America for that right.

I investigated the cost of Liability insurance with an agent that works with many companies, none of these companies were within a cost that would allow us to take care of our charities. We are talking hundreds of dollars, which would scrap our event. Costs to put on the ride and cover these new requirements would eat any profits instead of going to charities - something that Minnesota is well known for - our charitable giving. Our Road Guards also carry the same insurance and volunteer to do this job.

I belong to a couple groups who put on rides, we make sure the riders have insurance and motorcycle endorsements, if they don’t they don’t ride. Many statistics are out there, but what was the main cause of the accident, the automobile, or the Motorcycle? I believe many of these need another look.

As for those of us that are over the age of 40 or 50, we take precautions when we ride, and have been riding since we were young. One of the most important things we do is for the good of others. I am the Director of the American Legion Riders post 212, we have raised a great share of money for the Northwest Veterans Transportation Fund. Helping disabled and under privileged Veterans make their Doctors appointments is an important part of our program. Another is bringing Veterans from all groups together and letting them know they have a common bond. We also do community service events, Funerals, parades, ETC. We have Organizations out in rural Minnesota that range from Fire Fighters, EMS, Veterans Organizations, Christian Riders groups, and there are groups that just ride for certain charities. I am here to speak for all, not just one group.
I ask you to please not take the State of Minnesota Motorcycle groups and their charities out of our state. Think of our Disabled Veterans, Our Physically Challenged, Our Deployed Veterans and their Families, Our people in the Veterans Homes, Scholarships, and the list goes on. I as an avid rider feel like the motorcyclist is being singled out by one group, please bring the thoughts of all groups into the picture before moving on. Let’s keep Minnesota working for all. Thank you for your time.

Richard J. Martin Sr.

On Mon, Dec 16, 2013 at 10:28 AM, Richard Martin <pappy4175173@arvig.net> wrote:

Sounds as though we could have some News People there also, this is good.

From: Karla Richardson [mailto.]
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 10:12 AM
To: Richard Martin

Subject: RE: Emailing: Agenda for Road Guard Safety

Yikes! So rides either fold or up their ride cost and fewer come. All of which hurt the charities and the giving heart

sent from my phone sorry for typos

On Dec 16, 2013 10:02 AM, "Richard Martin Sr" <pappy4175173@arvig.net> wrote:

That includes the ride. Can't happen.
December 16, 2013

Richard Martin
19301 County 4
Park Rapids, MN 56470

Richard,

Thank you very much for your business with Modern Insurance Services! In regards to your inquiry for insurance for the motorcycle ride and road guards, I contacted a few surplus lines general agencies. Only one of my four options had a market for that type of event. The premium would be based on the number of people expected at the event, the number of days the event would run, and the precautions taken.

They did give me a ballpark premium estimation for a special events policy like this. The estimated premium was around $425.

This was quoted through Great Plains Brokerage in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mike Nordby