

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2010

Participate in Ride to Work Day on June 21st

Open letter to Motorcyclists:

Each year, the third Monday in June is recognized as Ride to Work Day. This year, on June 21st, more than a million riders will commute to work on their motorcycles. This annual event offers motorcyclists an opportunity to highlight motorcycles as a viable, fun, and fuel-efficient mode of transportation. We encourage you to participate and to use the day as a reminder to get involved in motorcycle safety.

We are encouraged that motorcycles are increasingly viewed as a viable transportation option, but that raises our responsibility to encourage safe and responsible riding and to make sure that all road users are conscious of motorcyclist safety. **Please help us with these goals by contacting your Member of Congress and encouraging him or her to join the Congressional Motorcycle Safety Caucus (CMSC).** Information about your Representative and how to get in touch can be found by visiting <http://www.house.gov/>.

As members of the CMSC we are committed to improving and advancing the safety of motorcyclists and encouraging all riders to get trained and licensed, and to ride responsibly. Our Caucus encourages drivers of cars, SUVs and other vehicles to be aware of motorcycles and to look out for motorcyclists. In over two thirds of fatal car-motorcycle crashes the driver of the car was at fault, making it very important that our audience is broader than just those who ride.

The CMSC identifies opportunities for Congress to improve motorcycle safety through education, outreach and, when necessary, legislation. We have actively highlighted the safety of motorcyclists by passing Congressional Resolutions supporting the goals of May As Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, hosting a Capitol Hill event attended by the Secretary of Transportation, drawing national attention to Ride to Work Day and ensuring that motorcycle safety is remembered in the transportation reauthorization process.

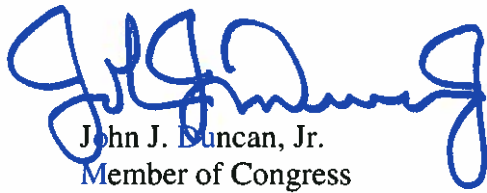
While the primary focus of the CMSC is safety there are also opportunities to promote motorcycles as legitimate transportation options. Motorcycles can save riders money at the fuel pump and help to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign sources of oil as motorcycles are considerably more fuel-efficient than most other vehicles. According to the Research and Innovative Technology Administration's Bureau of Transportation Statistics, passenger cars traveled an average of 22.5 miles per gallon in 2007, while motorcycles traveled an average of 56.2 miles per gallon.

We encourage you to participate in Ride to Work Day on June 21st and remind your Representative to join the Congressional Motorcycle Safety Caucus. Please be sure to ride safely and responsibly this day and every day. Happy Riding!

Sincerely,


Gabrielle Giffords
Member of Congress


Michael C. Burgess
Member of Congress


John J. Duncan, Jr.
Member of Congress


Bob Filner
Member of Congress


Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress