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Electronic News & Updates From *BikePAC of Idaho, Inc.*

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## Update on Idaho 2008 Legislative Session!

Idaho's Legislative Session will be almost wrapped up when you read this. The session draws to an end in March with those final days determined by how many bills are still unheard and unresolved. The legislators we talk to feel they will be working until to the end of the month.

*BikePAC* has been watching for legislation that affects the motorcycling community or threatens our lifestyle. This late in the session any bills like a mandatory helmet law for us *Big Kids* is highly unlikely to be introduced. Normally that legislation would funnel into a *Transportation Committee, House or Senate*, and there are deadlines for introduction into a germane committee. Even if a bill as such came the *back door* way, through a different committee and/or possibly tagged onto another associated bill, it would likely fail. Those tactics are pretty common in other states but Idaho is fairly consistent in introducing bills into the proper committees to be heard and printed. Our *Citizen Legislators* have not adopted the political ways and *circus like tactics* that are exhibited in Washington D.C.

Expect a bill from the Idaho Transportation Department for fee increases relating to licensing, titling, etc. Last session they introduced one that would increase fees approximately 75% across the board but it failed. As of this writing, we have not seen even an *RS* introduced into committee for this. An *RS* is the *draft legislation* that is introduced into committee to be voted on to print as a bill. Until it is heard in committee, that *RS* is considered intellectual property of the author, so virtually no one is aware of its content.

The ITD desperately needs more funding for roads especially considering that materials used are at an all time high in cost. An audit of the ITD and its expenditures to justify these increases is also underway. Legislation may be introduced soon with a combination of a gas tax increase and all other fees related to the ITD.

*BikePAC* is monitoring for this bill while increases are warranted they need to be kept reasonable, especially as pertaining to motorcycles. On average, motorcyclists enjoy the road about 7 months of the year and most of them are recreational in use. Consider the wear and tear we contribute to our roads...*virtually nil!* Fee increases for motorcyclists should be kept minimal because we are not the problem.

*OTHER NEWS...* NCOM, *National Coalition of Motorcyclists* is having its 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention May 8-11, 2008 in Houston, Texas. I serve on the Legislative Task Force and would like to see a great turnout from Idaho. Call for info: (1-800-ON-A-BIKE) or visit [http://www.aimncom.com/ncom/ncom\\_convention.htm](http://www.aimncom.com/ncom/ncom_convention.htm)

*WASHINGTON STATE UPDATE...* Again our neighbor to the west is trying to get a stoplight bill passed...4<sup>th</sup> attempt. Also, a bill that would increase license fees dramatically failed to make it out of committee. *Tim TJ Herzog*

### Contact Information:

You can contact your *BPI* Board Members via e-mail at any time if you have any questions.

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## ***BPI 2008 Idaho Bill WatchList***

Listed below are some of the Bills that *BikePAC of Idaho* is monitoring in the 2008 Idaho Legislature. In an effort to allow Idaho motorcyclists to remain informed and current regarding legislative activity this type of information will be made available on our web site.

**House Bill 356** - *language pertaining to... motorcycle endorsement requirements*

**House Bill 363** - *License plate fee increase*

**House Bill 365** - *MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS*

**House Bill 372** - *All-terrain vehicles, revise definition*

**House Bill 429** - *Uninsured, underinsured motorist insurance.*

**House Bill 586** - *Vehicle emission testing*

**House Bill 602** - *All Terrain Vehicles, Utility Vehicles and Motorbikes*

**House Bill 632** - *To increase the annual registration fee*

**House Bill 633** - *Increase the annual registration fee on certain school buses, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and utility trailers, and to increase the fee to validate a dealer or manufacturer number plate.*

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 57** - Stating findings of the Legislature encouraging and supporting proactive efforts, such as those of the Blake Webb Motorcycle Safety Awareness Foundation and to educate and inform Idahoans about the importance of motocross riding safety both on and off the track.

**Senate Bill 1359** - *Idaho rangeland license plate program and fees.*

For more detailed information on these Bills go to the [BPI](#) web site, go to the *Idaho Legislative* page and look for the links to the Idaho Legislature web site.

*If you know of someone who would like to receive these BikePAC of Idaho updates let us know! Send their e-mail address to:*  
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## ***BikePAC of Idaho Presents Certificate of Appreciation to Idaho State Rep. Phil Hart (R)***



*BikePAC of Idaho* (BPI) Board Members Tim Herzog (left) and Karen Hunley (right) present Idaho State Representative from District 3 Phil Hart (R) a Certificate of Appreciation for his recent participation at the *National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)* Region 1 Seminars in Spokane, WA last October.

Representative Hart was the key note speaker and among the topics he discussed was how ideas become legislation and ultimately become law in Idaho. He also spoke briefly about his book [Constitutional Income: Do You Have Any?](#) BikePAC of Idaho not only wishes to thank Rep. Hart for his time and willingness to share his thoughts and experience with the motorcyclists attending the seminar we also very much appreciate all his work on behalf of Idaho motorcyclists.

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