



**A.B.A.T.E.**

**American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**<http://www.abate.org>**

## **ABATE OFF-ROAD DIVISION!**

Ok everybody: Here's the deal. ABATE of California now has their off road division up and running! Simply go to [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) and you will see the link "Off Roaders, Protect Your Rights," click on that for an explanation and application form. If you have any questions, please email me at [nick@abate.org](mailto:nick@abate.org) or Dave Hastings at [dave@abate.org](mailto:dave@abate.org)

Here are the details in a nutshell. As you will recall, right after Assemblyman Paul Cook passed AB 1595 - the SxS bill that mandates helmets and outlaws aftermarket parts - ABATE's lobbyist stated that it would take about \$10,000 to get a repeal or modification bill through the assembly and to the governor before the recess. Well that deadline came and went, but our lobbyist, Jim Lombardo, still wanted to try and help because he has years of both off-road and on-road motorcycle legislative experience, and he has numerous contacts in Sacramento. He has agreed to write a repeal bill (which he has done) and submit it in time for the next legislative session in January of 2013. He is doing this with no money up front and said that IF we can get our off-road division off the ground and attract new members, he will present us with a discounted bill to be taken out of the new members' dues from the off-road division! This will ensure that the off-road division will pay for this in its entirety and no money will come from the on-road side of ABATE! This is an unprecedented offer and should not be taken lightly. This will give off-road riders a chance to have a full time lobbyist looking out for THEIR concerns, not the manufacturer's concerns! As ABATE already has a political machine in place, this is a win/win option for off-road riders everywhere!

If we don't get enough new members by July 1, 2013 when all of AB 1595 provisions kick in, we will simply shut down our off-road division and keep working on-road issues only. HOWEVER, if we do get and retain enough off-road members, our lobbyist, has agreed to work at a discounted rate to help ABATE truly represent all riders in California by helping off-road riders fight this and any future adverse legislation! That's right, if we can get several hundred new members out of the over one million off-road riders in California, we will have our own 24/7, 365 days per year lobbyist looking out for us (instead of the manufacturers) full time. All of this for an annual membership cost that is less than one day of off-roading! I have assured our lobbyist,

that there are many off-roaders, especially in the SxS community who will join us in this incredible opportunity.

Let's hope that I am right. After hearing many of you voice your concerns over the past couple of months, I sincerely hope that you will join ABATE of California. This will ensure that the off-road community will have their own full time lobbyist representing them in Sacramento to make sure that a bill like this never sneaks through again. How about it everyone, are we going to put our money where our mouth is? ABATE of California has done the start-up work and has the needed political resources to help immediately. Now it is time for the off-roaders to do their part. Simply go to ABATE's web site [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) and click on the "off roaders" link, print out the form and sign up to protect your rights. Or you can join on-line.

### **CURRENT ISSUES FOR OFF-ROADERS**

#### **AB 1595**

- Requires all drivers and passengers in ROHVs (Rhinos, Razors, etc.), regardless of age to wear helmets. *(Effective January 1, 2013)*
- Requires factory installed passenger seats. Aftermarket passenger seats will be illegal whether or not they were professionally installed. *(Effective July 1, 2013)*
- Requires factory installed roll cages. Aftermarket roll cages will be illegal even if professionally built and installed. *(Effective July 1, 2013)*
- Requires drivers to be 16 years old unless accompanied by an adult. *(Effective January 1, 2013)*
- Requires factory installed seat belts and shoulder straps. No aftermarket belts or straps. *(Effective July 1, 2013)*

### **UPCOMING ISSUES FOR OFF-ROADERS**

#### **ATV opponents ask federal safety agency to require seatbelts and roll cages;**

- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission asked the public to comment on ATV safety following its ATV Safety Summit held on October 11 and 12, 2012 in Bethesda, Maryland and opponents of ATVs responded in force. Most of the comments were from people and organizations demanding that children be banned from operating ATVs and other drastic measures be taken to make ATVs "safer".
  - These measures included mandatory roll cages, speed limiters, inter-lock systems so that an ATV cannot be operated if a person had consumed alcohol and a ban on aftermarket accessories such as rear rack bags. They also want smaller seats.

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