

What is A.B.A.T.E. of Mississippi?

The letters ABATE stand for American Bikers Active Toward Education. Abate is comprised of motorcyclists from all areas of the state, from all walks of life, and who ride all brands of motorcycles. We are competent, tax paying, law abiding, voting adult citizens and do not feel that we need to be told how to protect ourselves while engaged in our pursuit of happiness. ABATE is a politically active charitable organization working on preserving motorcyclist's rights, and promoting a positive public image for motorcyclists and motorcycling as a whole.

Our main focus is to keep motorcycle legislation in its proper perspective. Many restrictive laws are enacted by uninformed legislators, and ABATE's goal is to keep our lawmakers informed about how we feel about particular kinds of legislation. Preventing unfair legislation from becoming law is much easier than fighting to get unfair laws repealed. We feel motorcyclists have the same rights as automobile drivers, so we helped to get legislation passed to make antique, personalized and handicapped tags available for membership, such as discrimination in health insurance, prohibitions on motorcycle access to federal and state parks, mandates for unnecessary "safety" equipment (such as air bag suits, roll bars and motorcycle seat belts), prohibitions against sale or installation of aftermarket parts for our motorcycles, higher sales tax on motorcycles than automobiles, forced destruction of bikes 20 years old, motorcyclists injured in an accident are forced to become organ donors and motorcycles are banned from certain roads.

We are NOT against the wearing of helmets, and we encourage all riders to ride safely and responsibly. We do feel that an educated rider is a safe rider. It is better to prevent accidents rather than provide the illusion of safety by wearing a helmet only. Helmet laws do nothing to prevent an accident, while rider education certainly does.

ABATE is involved in community service through various charity events. Over the years we have donated to the MS Burn Center and many other charities.

Some of the benefits you will receive by joining ABATE are:

- State newsletter six times a year with legislative updates, and general information
- Membership card and one-year pin for new members. Year pin and card for renewals
- Admission discounts at State ABATE events
- \$2,500. Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit at no cost to the member
- The personal satisfaction of joining your brothers and sisters in promoting the great sport of motorcycling while protecting and supporting your right to ride

ABATE is a purely voluntary organization and needs your help and support for it to work. ABATE is fighting for the rights of all motorcyclists in the state of Mississippi, whether they are members or not. Support through attending meetings and monetary support through memberships and donations are what we need in order for us to keep fighting for the rights of all. Our organization is open to all concerned parties regardless of what type motorcycle they prefer to ride or even if they ride at all.

ABATE of Mississippi is a group effort!