

# ABATE OF NORTH IDAHO, INC.

## ***LEGISLATIVE PREPAREDNESS PLAN***

### (STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA)

The following Legislative Agenda is to be used as a guide for ANI, Inc. and is subject to modification, revisions and additions as necessary. *Member participation is required.* ABATE of North Idaho's best line of defense as a *SMRO* is to maintain personal contact with our own State Lawmakers. Since Idaho employs a *true Citizen's Legislature*, maintaining this contact throughout the year and during the Legislative Session will help keep ANI's position regarding any and all legislation affecting motorcyclist's forefront. *This Grass Roots Lobbying effort is extremely effective.* Our Legislators welcome and respond to input directly from their constituency, as they have indicated in person at recent meetings with our membership. The following recommendations need to be implemented and maintained.

- ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

This will be comprised of a State Legislature Chairman and a Legislative affairs contact person (s) from every chapter. Information regarding changes in legislation, upcoming or pending bills, need to be disseminated immediately to the membership through this network.

- STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE

*DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:*

- Maintain contact with State and Federal Legislators that represent our membership.
- Mail our legislators on an annual basis, *ANI's tri-fold handout* and other information as necessary that will keep our lawmakers aware of a *Pro-Active SMRO* in Idaho.
- Establish working relationships with members of Idaho's *Senate and House Transportation Committees*. These committees will be where our most important issues are introduced; i.e. *Adult Helmet Laws*
- Work with every Chapter to establish a Legislative Affairs contact(s). This contact person(s) will be responsible for disseminating information from the State Legislative Chairman to their respective members. These Chapter contacts along with the State Chairman will comprise the State Legislative Committee. Duties of the State Legislative Chairman may be *shared* and all

information regarding issues related to this committee can be disseminated from any member of this committee as deemed necessary. When dealing with Legislative issues, *TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE*.

- It is the duty of the *State Legislative Committee* to understand the Legislative Process that affects all of us and to *Motivate, Educate and Keep the Membership Informed*.

- COMMUNICATION

For this process to be effective it is a *Necessity* that all members of the Legislative Committee have access to various forms of communication, phone, e-mail and fax capability. Legislative Committee members need to establish a direct connection to their chapter members by whatever form of communication that suits each individual member. Once this communication network is established, both State and Federal Legislative information can be disseminated to the membership and acted upon urgently if necessary. A phone tree needs to be established for those members *willing* to participate.

- REGISTERED VOTERS AND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

*Every member of ANI should be a registered voter and be willing to exercise that right.* In case a member has lost their right to vote, many times that can be re-established after a period of time. All members need to be made aware of whom their State and Federal Representatives are. The legal address on a member's driver's license will determine what Legislative District member is in. A label attached to our *Idaho members* newsletter with their respective Legislative District and Representative's names should be implemented.

- LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY

The State Legislative Chairman will supply copies of the Idaho Legislative Directory to each Chapter Legislative Affairs contact annually as it becomes available. This Directory shows how to contact your Legislators in Idaho, what committees they serve on, and days and time that those committees meet. All necessary contact information is included in this directory. ANI has many links for the State of Idaho currently available on our website.

- MEETING YOUR LEGISLATORS

It is important that our membership has the opportunity to meet and speak with their *Representatives* in Idaho. Occasionally Legislator's attend *Town Hall meetings* at various locations and that is one way to meet and speak to your legislator. Another and very effective way is to invite Legislators that represent the membership's respective Legislative District to meet with various Chapters. These meetings are to be held at a location that the public can also attend. Bars are not an acceptable meeting place.

- ELECTION YEARS - INCUMBENTS AND CANDIDATES

During election years, both *Incumbents and Candidates* need to be met with. Even though we might have a working relationship with an Incumbent, there is no guarantee that he or she will keep their seat. All Candidates running for election are to be aware of our issues. Their position regarding these issues should be made known to us prior to the election process to help us decide who are allies will be.

- MRO'S AND THEIR IMPORTANCE

*MRO'S* such as AMA, MRF and NCOM are important to the whole motorcycling community. Each one has slightly different areas of expertise and serves different motorcyclist's issues and membership in any or all of them is important. These organizations with their lobbyists, attorneys, financial resources and accessibility to Congress at the *Federal Level and State Legislators* can affect legislation to a greater degree than we normally are able to. *However*, recognize that the *main task and responsibility of protecting our individual freedoms and rights belongs to the members of ANI*. Membership alone does not guarantee our liberties without active participation and we must always pursue the support of *our own* State and Federal Representatives to that end.

Active participation in *all 3 of these MRO's* is highly recommended and any expenditure related to them, whether for Conferences, Seminars or financial support, needs to be considered carefully and analyzed in a *business like* fashion to receive maximum benefit for dollars spent. *All* members that participate in these functions that are financed by ANI need to *responsible and held accountable to the membership*. Formal reports and handout materials obtained at such functions should be made available to the membership and for the State archives.

The true success of this plan can only be attained with the active participation of members that have the *dedication and passion for liberty* and those that are willing to work together to empower ABATE of North Idaho, Inc. to stand out among *SMRO's* and be recognized as a leader. *Let us begin now and set the example for others.*

January 8th, 2006  
State Meeting