

C.M.R.A.

**Connecticut Motorcycle Riders Association
Legislative Committee
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The CMRA would like to thank Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, and all of the Transportation Committee for their time today.

May it be expressed that Raised Bill No. 1042 is supported by the CMRA.

The intended goal to endorse three wheelers is highly supported. There are some arguments and concerns within the membership regarding the wording of the Bill. Cost versus beneficial return and safety in road use are burdens which must be considered. If we are unable to assist with the best clarification to this problem today, we will be available at anytime to work towards what may be a second best answer in the future.

Current proposed revision to section 14-40a “Any such applicant who operates a motorcycle with three wheels may use a motorcycle with three wheels for the purposes of driving skills instruction during a novice motorcycle training course.”

Although there are no perfect solutions to any problems, there are no current instruction or skills facilities in CT (or RI – which is on the same data base) that are prepared for three wheelers. It is recognized that the Transportation Committee needs to endorse anyone on a motorcycle. A motorcycle is defined in the state of CT as a, “...saddle seat ridden vehicle....”

Connecticut, our Nation, and many states are currently suffering with budget problems. Although a cost may be incurred for the initiation of an MSF Sidecar/Trike Course training program, the beneficial return may be well worth the investment. There is currently no nationally recognized novice training course that can accommodate both types of vehicles. The adoption of the three wheeler course curriculum is the hopeful objective surrounding this issue. As the number of three wheeled motorcycles on the road is increasing, the ultimate goal of instruction, endorsement, and advantageous insurance discounts for riders of those vehicles is a primary concern. It is felt that this program can be agreeably obtained with the July 1, 2013 target date.

It is a desire expressed by many, that a possible revision of the bill may include mention of a motorcycle endorsement being granted for three wheelers that complete an MSF Sidecar/Trike Course. It is felt that the course will offer life saving instruction that will pay for itself in the long run. The reimbursement of an initial investment with the need and demand for three wheeler instruction is expected to produce benefits for road users and the State of Connecticut.