

Comments come below a from former Regional Manager of Kensington Huron-Clinton Metro Parks and MSU adjunct instructor. Please consider during hearing on "helmet" regulation reviews. Freedom of Choice should never override safety and consequential unregulated effects. The possible unintended release of rules, regulations and enforcement procedures is not needed, required or wise. The original intent of snow machine and RV legislation has not changed. Please defer, table or reject.

John Greenslit
National Recreation and Park Association
APRS Fellow.

----- Original Message -----

From: Richard Shafer <richard.shafer@outlook.com>

To: john greenslit <j.greenslit@comcast.net>

Date: 02/12/2022 4:37 PM

Subject: Re: SB 210, 211.

John: I agree with your letter to the committee. These folks do not seem to understand the benefits that the using public gains by wearing safety equipment. Most, if not all of them have never had to deal with a severely injured or dying person that has an injury that would have not occurred if they had been wearing the necessary protective equipment. Here are a couple of immediate thoughts that you can share.

1. What has changed in the snowmobiling sport that brought on the original passage of the law? Have snowmobiling accidents, with head injuries been eliminated? If there has been a sharp decline in head injuries, then this action may be appropriate. How about accidents on motorcycles and bicycles, have they been eliminated so helmets are no longer needed? While they are at it, elimination of seat belts in autos, life jackets for boaters, helmets for football, baseball and hockey players should be reviewed also.
2. Those with head injuries are often required to deal with these injuries that can affect them for the rest of their lives. Not only are they affected individually, but those close to them including, those who depend on them are usually impacted often with great personal sacrifices and added financial support. Plus, the cost that these individuals incur from their injuries is paid by others in the form of needed medical expenses and various forms of rehabilitation costs.
3. Who pays the cost associated with the paramedic, law enforcement and judicial cost that are generated by the accident? After the accident is cleared, who pays for the investigation, plus personnel and equipment cost associated with dealing with the accident? These can be very expensive items that people, other than the injured party must provide financial support for.

4. Added to this, the psychological problems that occur to the responding professionals plus, the witnessing public, can negatively remain forever implanted in the minds of those who experienced the event. I have, and friends plus, fellow professionals can share the gruesome details of sever accidents that they have been involved with, years of the happening. We each knew at the time that the appropriate protective gear could have lessened or prevented the injury all together.

Just some quick thoughts on your letter writing subject. Take care and have a great day! Dick.