



Legislative Report February 20th 2022

SB2940 ELECTRIC VEHICLES (5) –**Support** “Amends the Electric Vehicle Act and the Electric Vehicle Rebate Act. Deletes language providing that “electric vehicle” does not include electric motorcycles. Effective immediately.” This our response to our Governor’s office statement, “Motorcycle are secondary types of transportation, not to be considered in Electric vehicle transportation legislation.” Thanks to all who filed witness slips! –Sen. Tom Cullerton, Placed on Senate calendar for second reading 15 Feb 2022.

SB3908 DNR-ABOLISH ADVISORY BOARD (5) –**Oppose** Amends the Departments of State Government Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois by repealing the Section that created the Department of Natural Resources Advisory Board. Makes corresponding changes in the Wildlife Code and the Illinois Open Land Trust Act. Amends the Department of Natural Resources Act. Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to conduct regional yearly public forums to obtain public input and comments on subjects, matters, or programs under the control of the Department of Natural Resources. Requires the Department of Natural Resources to consider all comments received during a public forum.

Eliminates the “Natural Resource Advisory Board.” The civilian oversight committee of our Department of Natural Resources, giving all distribution of DNR funds directly to our DNR. We are working with IFOR (Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources) to stop this legislation. Sen. Doris Turner Placed in State Government Committee, 16 Feb 2022.

PETITION SIGNING PERIOD: (3) our political friends are in the ten year inch here in Illinois. We are in the new redistrict map period. Many of our familiar faces have the same name, but a new district. So, if you live in the district with the following names either incumbent or new to the district, please help. Sign that person’s petition! They need 2,000 (plus) signatures to appear on said ballots. “Grass root action” is how we gain a foot hold back in the 1980’s. We become fat and happy, time we get back to this type of action, the individual. Petition circulation began on January 13th and runs to March 7th 2022. Petition filing begin March 7th and close on March 14th 2022, for our Primary Election on June 28th 2022.

So if you see any of these Politicians seeking signatures, and you reside within this new district please sign! Steve Stadelman, Dave Syverson, Andrew Chesney, John Cabello, Joe Sosnowski, Toni McCombie, Maurice West, or Tom Demmer (running for an Executive office). We shall have a clearer picture of our Political landscape as filings begin. Remember this is a key race as this year lays out our motorcycling future for the next 10 years. So, get involved. Sign petitions, put up yard signs, and most important VOTE!

LEGISLATIVE DAY; (1) Our Legislative Day has been moved from February 16th 2022, to March 23, 2022. (Omicron victim.) Still being held at the State House Inn, 101 East Adams, Springfield, Il. (217) 528 5100. The State House Inn is directly across from our State Capital. We will have a morning brief, Legislative packets distributed, stroll over to the Capital meet with Senators and Representatives. Later in the evening, we shall host a “Meet and greet” reception at the State House Inn. If you had reserved rooms at the STATE HOUSE INN for February 16th call and verify your reservation for ABATE of Illinois has transfer to March 23rd date.

HEARTLAND STEAM: (2) Shall be held On April 1st and 2nd at the Northfield Inn, 3280 Northfield Drive in Springfield Drive. This is the Motorcycle Riders Foundation gathering of riders in the Midwestern States. That include Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and this year Illinois has the pleasure of hosting this event. One may sign up on our ABATE of Illinois website, links on the Heartland Steam event flyer. Hotels available are the Northfield Inn or the Ramada Inn. Preregistration fees for the event are \$50 per person. Hotel room rates for this event are \$100 per night plus tax. Proceeds from our Northwest Region Chili cook-off went towards supporting this event.

Felony charges in 1st Autopilot fatal crash. (4) California prosecutors have filed two counts of vehicular manslaughter against the driver of a Tesla on Autopilot who ran a red light, slammed into another car and killed two people in 2019.

The defendant appears to be the first person to be charged with a felony in the United States for a fatal crash involving a motorist who was using a partially automated driving system. Los Angeles County prosecutors filed the charges in October, but they came to light only last week. **Felony charges in 1st Autopilot fatal crash** (continued)

The driver, Kevin George Aziz Riad, 27, has pleaded not guilty. Riad, a limousine service driver, is free on bail while the case is pending. The misuse of Autopilot, which can control steering, speed and braking, has occurred on numerous occasions and is the subject of investigations by two federal agencies.

The filing of charges in the California crash could serve notice to drivers who use systems like Autopilot that they cannot rely on. The criminal charges aren't the first involving an automated driving system, but they are the first to involve a widely used driver technology

In the Tesla crash, police said a Model S was moving at a high speed when it left a freeway and ran a red light in the Los Angeles suburb of Gardena and struck a Honda Civic at an intersection on Dec. 29, 2019. Two people who were in the Civic, Gilberto Alcazar Lopez and Maria Guadalupe Nieves-Lopez died at the scene. Riad and a woman in the Tesla were hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries. Criminal charging documents do not mention Autopilot. But the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which sent investigators to the crash, confirmed last week that Autopilot was in use in the Tesla at the time of the crash. The company has said that Autopilot and a more sophisticated "Full Self-Driving" system cannot drive themselves and that drivers must pay attention and be ready to react at any time. "Full Self-Driving" is being tested by hundreds of Tesla owners on public roads in the U.S.

National Roadway Safer Strategy (6) January 26th 2022 National Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg released this new strategy, Vision Zero based. Goals contained within safer people, safer roads, safer vehicles, safer speeds, post-crash care, even speaks of Equity and Climate change. Other words a "Safe system" approach. This safer system encourages the reduced use of automobiles, fossil fueled vehicles and basically reduced human interaction on roadways. Expanded use of bicycles, increased bike pathways. Increased use of walking and safer walkway paths. Promoting the use of electric scooters on designated pathways. Increased use of electric vehicles, autonomous ride sharing vehicles.

Also pressing for reduced speed limits on highways. Noted in this strategy speeding has been a role in more than a quarter of traffic deaths in the past decade killing nearly 100,000 persons. With 78 percent of those killed involved in speeds in excess of 30 mph. And promote more use of "Automated Speed enforcement" systems.

Fatalities in 2019 (16,261) the plan shows the following contributing factors with these fatalities; 16,261 the vehicles left the roadway, 9,530 took place in rural areas, 7,409 people not wearing a seat belt, 5,958 had blood alcohol in excess of .08, 5,560 involved in a roll over, 5,555 speeding was involved. Then goes on two pages later to show the "risky behavior" being a contributing factor in the above 2019 fatalities other words actions of the "other driver" involved , 10,142 intoxication, 9,478 Speeding, 9,466 no seat belt, 3,142 involved distractions, 97 drowsy driver.

U.S. DOT is also cognizant of the need to plan for the safety landscape in the future. This includes a responsibility to use holistic approaches to assess the safety of emerging technologies such as Automated Driving Systems (ADS). A small number of vehicles equipped with ADS are in development and undergoing testing today. The Department is tracking their performance daily, and is actively researching test methods, procedures, and criteria to assess long-term safety benefits, as well as broader impacts on workers, drivers, and all people who use the roadways.

Nowhere in this plan does it address motorcycling, with exception of the expanded use of electric scooters and of 5,005 large truck accidents more than 80 percent of these fatalities involved occupants of other vehicles or other road users such as pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclist.

(1) Statehouse Inn 101 East Adams, Springfield, IL 217 528 5100.

(2) Heartland Steam event, MRF or ABATE of Illinois WEBSITE.

(3) Illinois STATE BOARD of ELECTIONS website <https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/OfficesUpForElection>

(4) [Felony charges are 1st in a fatal crash involving Autopilot | AP News](#)

(5) General Assembly website, sb2940, sb3809

(6) National Roadway Safety Strategy (transportation.gov)