



OHV COALITION

August 29, 2007

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Steinberg:

Thank you for introducing this bill and a thank you to your staff for their hard work during many hours of negotiations between all the stakeholder parties. After many hours of negotiations with the parties involved, we the undersigned off road leaders, representing 12 off road organizations, are in support of SB 742. We strongly support keeping an Off Highway Vehicle Motor Recreation Program open that is ecologically balanced and also encourages recreational opportunities for this and future generations. It is critical that we protect California's environmentally sensitive cultural and natural resources and we believe that SB 742 accomplishes this.

We understand there are concerns over the \$25.00 fee increase for off highway vehicles (green sticker) licenses in this bill. The off road leadership of the 12 organizations listed believes this increase is reasonable and necessary.

The fees have not kept up with the cost of living. In fact, the increase in this bill is still below the cost of living level. In order to fund this increasingly popular and expanding program, it is necessary to provide adequate support to the program.

All of the increased fees will go directly to the off Highway Motor Vehicle Division to increase the grants program which funds off road sites. This translates into better operations and maintenance of off road areas. Half of the funds will also be used for conservation, restoration, law enforcement, education and safety that off-roaders support.

While we would have preferred to eliminate the program sunset completely, we believe the compromise of ten years is reasonable compared to past years where it was extended only a few years at a time. We will be able to plan for the future.

Again, we appreciate your work on this issue and are in strong support of the final product.

Best regards,

Dave Pickett, Legislative Officer
American Motorcyclist Association, District 36

Bob Sackett, Legislative Officer
American Motorcyclist Association, District 37 Dual Sport

Dave Oakleaf, Legislative Officer
American Motorcyclist Asso., District 37 Off Road

Nicholas Haris, Western States Representative
American Motorcyclist Association, National

Grant George, President
American Sand Association

Don Amador, Western Representative
Blue Ribbon Coalition

Donald Spuhler, President
California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs

Jay Dobler, Vice President
California Nevada Snowmobile Association

Ed Waldheim, President
California Off Road Vehicle Association

Jim Suty, President
Friends of Oceano Dunes

Fred Wiley, Executive Director
Off Road Business Association

Ed Stovin, President
San Diego Off-Road Coalition