

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE WES KELLER DISTRICT 14

Sponsor Statement House Bill 262

“An Act establishing the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness Month.”

For many people visiting Alaska each summer one of the surprises is how many motorcycles are on the road. That’s because Alaskans enjoy the warm weather which usually begins shortly after the road are clear of ice and snow and lasts until the snow comes again.

This normally means that riders are on the streets and roads earlier and later during the year than in most parts of the lower 48. Typically May is considered the month when the majority of street legal bikes are up and running. With this thought the Motorcycle Safety Foundation launches a campaign for motorcycle awareness and safety. Alaska has followed this lead but currently requires special attention from the Governor in the form of a declaration.

House Bill 262 will change that, making May officially Motorcycle Awareness Month in Alaska. This change allows members of the Alaska Motorcycle Safety Commission to plan for the campaign in advance. The materials center of safety; a reminder to vehicle drivers that motorcycles are back on the street and to motorcycle riders to keep an eye on those drivers not yet use to seeing them.

Support for May as Motorcycle Awareness month is a no cost to the government way to support traffic safety projects in Alaska.