



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

December 19, 2011

SMARTER
PO Box 121
Scottville, MI 49454

Dear Dr. Smith & Mr. Petterson,

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding Michigan's Motorcycle Helmet Law. Governor Snyder appreciates your concerns and ideas as we move forward, reinventing Michigan. I am responding on behalf of the governor.

Presently, all persons riding a motorcycle, and any person less than 19 years of age operating a moped on a public thoroughfare, are required to wear a crash helmet on his or her head. The Michigan Department of State Police has been given the legislative responsibility to approve crash helmets and to promulgate rules to implement this law.

Senate Bill 291 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code (MCL 257.658) to specify that individuals 21 years of age and older operating or riding on a motorcycle would not be required to wear a crash helmet if they met certain conditions.

SB 291 was recently passed by the House of Representatives and sent to Senate for a full vote. You can track the progress of this bill and other legislation online at www.legislature.mi.gov. While the governor must reserve final judgment on this legislation until it reaches its final form, he would support changes to Michigan's mandatory helmet law only if other motorists don't pay more as a result. The governor wants to study the idea in connection with other changes to the state's no-fault insurance laws. There must be a broader effort to reform vehicle insurance that takes into consideration the best interest of all Michigan citizens.

Please be assured that should related legislation come before the governor for final signature, he will be certain to keep your views close at hand.

Again, thank you for sharing your comments and concerns with Governor Snyder. Please do not hesitate to contact our office regarding this or any other state-related matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Gardner".

Kevin Gardner
Constituent Relations Division
Executive Office of the Governor, Rick Snyder
Phone: (517) 335-785