



2016 Winter Business Seminar
Legislative Strategy Session

What are we about?

- In addition to *directly* promoting legislation related to motorcycles, motorcyclists, *and* motorcycling - the aims and purposes set forth in the by-laws of ABATE show that we are *generally* involved with almost anything concerning “the ride”.

See: MRF Fact or Fiction and ABATE Comprehensive Legislative Plan handouts

Here's what Chapters are supposed to do:

- The PRIMARY responsibility of every Chapter is to influence their area legislators, regarding motorcycle, motorcyclist, and motorcycling related legislation, supported by ABATE.
- Ask yourselves this question: Is our Chapter *actually* doing this, on a *regular* basis?
- A follow-up question might be: If not why not?

What else Chapters should do:

- **In addition, chapters should actively involve themselves in election and re-election campaigns for local legislators that support our legislation.**
- **Spend time and effort educating people on “sharing the road”.**
- **Encourage impairment free riding and driving.**

Grassroots - Getting it done...

- The State can't and shouldn't be expected to do your Chapters' responsibilities for you.
- You are the ones that elect your Assemblymen and Senators.
- You are the ones who must reach out and contact these representatives, with phone calls, letters, cards, scheduled meetings...
 - Let's see a couple examples: E.Hughes; B. Rabin

ABATE of New York, Inc.

Onondaga Chapter

P.O. Box 11575

Syracuse, New York 13218

January 16th, 2016

**Assemblywoman Pamela Hunter
711 East Genesee Street, 2nd Floor
Syracuse, NY 13210-1540**

Re: Assembly Bill A03241

Dear Assemblywoman Hunter,

I am [*a member/legislative officer/President etc.*] of ABATE, an organization dedicated to promoting motorcycle safety, motorcyclists' rights/education, and the general motorcycling experience. Securing appropriate legislation to protect and support the approximately 34,000 registered motorcycles in NY is one of the main functions of our organization. I am writing to you today to relay our support/opposition to XYZ bill, currently in the House/Assembly.

The XYZ bill negatively affects motorcyclists in several ways. First, it does *something*. Second, it fails to do *something*. And finally, it wrongly does *something else*. So, as you can see, we do not support this bill. On behalf of my ABATE Chapter and many of the thousands of motorcyclists, I urge you support us when voting on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin C. Rabin, Esq.

Some great initial tools...

<http://assembly.state.ny.us>

See Elected Officials handouts (3 pages)

<https://www.nysenate.gov/find-my-senator>

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/>

See Legislative Session Calendar; ABATE Position Paper & State Bill search results

The *Challenge* for 2016

- Schedule one (1) meeting with a local representative.
- Plus Each Chapter Legislative Coordinator attend one (1) fund raiser for a local candidate or representative during 2016.
- And write one (1) letter requesting support for one of the bills we favor, from a legislator who is not currently supporting the bill.
- How will I know who to contact?

<http://www.elections.ny.gov>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the New York State Board of Elections. The browser address bar displays "http://www.elections.ny.gov/INDEX.html". The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories like Public Information, Voting Information, and Election Results. The main content area includes sections for "Next Election" (April 19th, 2016), "Voter Information" with four quick links, and a "Calendar of Events" for February 2016. A table lists two events: a webinar on Campaign Finance Compliance and a Commissioners Meeting. The right sidebar contains "2016 Elections" with various calendar and document links, and "Recent Publications" including the 2014 Annual Report and a report on public financing.

Next Election
The next election is the Presidential Primary, April 19th, 2016.

Voter Information

- Need a Voter Registration Form?
- Want to find out if you are registered and where you vote?
- Need to change your name and/or address?
- Want to change your Party enrollment?
- Need an Absentee Ballot?
- Are you in the Armed Forces or live overseas?
- Want to learn about Voting Machines?
- Need to look up your Elected Official or District Map?

Calendar of Events
February 2016

Date	Event	Additional Information
2/9 10:30AM	Webinar - "Campaign Finance Compliance"	To start or join the online meeting, go to: Join Webinar Meeting Number: 648 930 299 Meeting Password: winter1
2/23 12:00 P.M.	Commissioners Meeting	State Board Offices 40 North Pearl 5th Floor Albany NY 12207 Minutes and Archived Webcasts

2016 Elections

- 2016 Campaign Finance Filing Calendar (212KB)
- 2016 NY Presidential Primary Ballot Access Requirements (153KB)
- 2016 NY Presidential Primary Political Calendar (50KB)
- 2016 Federal Political Calendar Court Order (1.5MB)
- 2016 DRAFT Political Calendar (228KB)
- Time off to vote (77KB)

Recent Publications

- 2014 Annual Report (2.76Mb)
- Report on 2014 Public Financing Pilot Program (258KB)
- Lever Voting Report pursuant to Chapter 273 of the Laws of 2014 (5,412KB)
- Review of Interstate Exchanges of Voter Registration Information (839KB)
- EAC Grant Reports

Legislative Agendas
2015 Proposed Legislative

See Board of Elections Handouts (4 pages)

How else we can influence change

- **Join and support MRF – federal level issues**
- **Before planning to attend fundraisers for your local candidates & representatives:**
 - **Contact the “Committee to re-elect” and ask to be placed on the reps. fund raising calendar.**
- ***Pass the hat* and Support ABATE RRF Inc. PAC**

Passing the Hat

- **Most – if not all Chapters “pass the hat” during meetings. Where does that money go?**
- **It *should* be collected and sent to our PAC, on a monthly basis!**
 - See last page of handout: ABATE of NY Guidebook – Page 5 (Prospector)

The PAC

Corporate law prohibits ABATE of New York Inc. from making political contributions.

The PAC is a separate and independent corporation that is able to make monetary contributions and endorse candidates.

It is subject to close scrutiny by the state of New York.

How is it funded?

- The first way is through dues of the PAC representatives, which is \$50 per year. The PAC would like to have a representative in every county throughout New York State.
- The second way is by individual donations.
- The third, and *most effective source*, is passing the hat at every chapter, state, and board meeting and at every event. A personal check NOT A CHAPTER CHECK- is then sent to the PAC.

Last - but not least...

- **Monday, May 16th, 2016 - the Freedom Rally**

Any Questions?

Have a safe trip home.