



March 27, 2007

Honorable Lois Wolk, Member
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3120
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 478 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Wolk:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 2,800 rank and file Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Probation Officers, Deputy Correctional Officers, District Attorney Investigators, and Deputy Coroners – the entire law enforcement team in Riverside County - is pleased to support AB 478.

The specific use of helmets by bicyclists was not an accepted practice twenty years ago, and today it is. We had reason to see the practicality of protecting our most vulnerable body part, the brain, during a fall by using a helmet. Even more today, we know that some accidents are preventable, if practical steps are taken, and thus there are specific lighting requirements in this measure, that will be new to some riders in California.

Keying from these uniform lighting requirements, we also seek a solution to another bicycling concern that relates to use of bicycle trails. Miles-long trails commonly wander through several local jurisdictions. For example one trail in your district goes through the city of Davis in Yolo County into the City of Sacramento in Sacramento County, and, some day, plans will take the trail even farther down the Sacramento River on the south and into cities in Yuba County on the northeast. Trails extending into multi-jurisdictions, as a practical matter, should be reviewed for uniformity of ordinances, so that everyone who uses these trails knows the rules of the trail. It would be advantageous to select one county or city jurisdiction to cover an entire trail. Thank you for consideration of these points.

Very truly yours,

Pat McNamara
President

Timothy H. B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: RSA