

## Marble Floor Marathon, Ending of Part 1

The final transportation package kept our weight fees unchanged (\$25 + \$10 existing, combined to \$35) through 2029 and beyond. 1 January 2029 all other weight classes have an automatic increase. The way that session went, I will chalk this up as a win.

Our weight fee bill ([SB 5309](#)), being carried by Sen. Cortes (D-18) with Sen. MacEwen (R-35) as second seat, did not clear committee cutoff. If things go well, maybe we can bring it back to life next session in some form or another. Since our weight fees remained unchanged, we will (hopefully) not have preloaded push back. I am already doing outreach to work on getting the weight fee bill resurrected and the language adjusted to reflect the engrossed language in the funding package.

Moving forward, we need to keep the communications with our senators and representatives alive and well. The good news is that we are coming into festival, fair, and parade season, which will cause many of those same representatives and senators to come out and meet people. It's an excellent opportunity to catch up to them and begin to work the message. The message does not need to be super detailed, merely sowing the seeds that we are looking to get our own weight category. So hit those fairs, festivals, and parades and do some outreach. As a bonus, there is a chance to grab some festival food, and who doesn't want some stuff on a stick or funnel cakes.

As a reminder, we will be setting our legislative agenda at the October BOD. Normally, anything introduced is more strategic to gather support and identify push back than to try to use a 60 day session to get a "new issue" to the finish line. Weight fees and congestion relief (lane sharing and shoulder riding) will be some good strategic targets. The member survey will be included in future communications and in the September newsletter.

Until next time, ride safely and legislate well.

"Texas" Larry