



- WHEREAS, motorcycle riding is a popular form of recreation and transportation for thousands of citizens across North Carolina and the United States; and,
- WHEREAS, North Carolina has over 195,000 registered motorcycles and it is important that the citizens of North Carolina be aware of motorcycles on our roadways and recognize the importance of motorcycle safety; and,
- WHEREAS, in 2021, there were 3,615 motorcycle-related crashes in North Carolina that resulted in 689 people being seriously injured, and 206 fatalities; and,
- WHEREAS, the safe operation of a motorcycle is enhanced through a combination of rider education and training, experience, highly visible safety gear including a compliant helmet, good judgment, and a knowledge of traffic laws and licensing requirements; and,
- WHEREAS, several organizations, such as the Gaston County Chapter of the Concerned Bikers Association/ABATE of NC, along with the North Carolina Motorcycle Safety Education Program, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and other state and local motorcycle clubs and riding/social clubs, are committed to increasing the safe operation of motorcycles by promoting rider safety education programs; and,
- WHEREAS, it is the goal of these organizations to alert the motorists of Gaston County and its municipalities to "Look Twice and Save a Life"; and,
- WHEREAS, Motorcycle Awareness Month is designed to increase public awareness about motorcycles and to encourage their safe and proper use among motorcycle riders.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

in Gaston County and reminds all citizens that safe driving and riding practices and cooperation from all road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our highways.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Cathy Cloninger

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 25th Day of May 2023