



September 7, 2012

**Maryland Motor
Vehicle Administration**
6601 Ritchie Highway, N.E.
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21062

410-768-7000
CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

301-729-4563
TTY

www.MVA.Maryland.gov
WEB SITE

Colonel Marcus Brown, Superintendent
Maryland State Police
1201 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville MD 21208

Dear Colonel Brown:

HB 149 / SB 309 - Mopeds and Motor Scooters - Titling, Insurance, and Required Use of Protective Headgear was enacted into law and is effective October 1, 2012. We appreciate the cooperative efforts of the Maryland State Police (MSP) in working with us to promote awareness of the new law among law enforcement and the motoring public.

This new law requires three main components for operators of motor scooters and mopeds; mandatory titling with a decal, mandatory insurance, and mandatory helmet use. In the interest of fairness, MVA is requesting that MSP refrain from issuing citations with penalties (issuing warning citations is fine) for one component of the new law, failure to display a title decal for the first 30 days after the effective date. This will allow a reasonable opportunity to obtain a titling decal, through the mail or in person. Further, we would like to request your assistance in asking local law enforcement to provide the same courtesy. The other components of the law (helmet, insurance) can be enforced immediately.

MVA has worked diligently to implement and publicize these new requirements since the law was passed. Earlier in the summer, MVA representatives presented information on the new law to the MSP Cadets at the Police Academy in Sykesville. MVA with MSP is also making the presentation available electronically to all law enforcement. Already, MVA has done a number of media interviews on the issue. Our joint media event with MSP and University of Maryland Police is set for September 24.

Further, MVA is developing a short video which will include information on the new law that can be shared online and with interested partners. MVA officials have met with the Motorcycle Dealers Association who has also expressed an interest in helping to promote this law with efforts that include an informational mailing to their motor scooter customers. The communication plan also includes using social media, computer monitors in the branch offices, and the MVA website to disseminate information.

I very much appreciate you and your staff's assistance in this matter. If you would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me at 410-768-7274 or via email at jkuo@mva.maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

John T. Kuo
Administrator

Martin O'Malley - Governor
Darrell B. Mobley - Acting Secretary

Anthony G. Brown - Lt. Governor
John T. Kuo - Administrator