



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA

IN THE NAME OF EDUCATION...

Children between the ages of *two* to *eighteen* will be *required* to wear a federally approved and securely fastened helmet on their head when riding ANY non-motorized vehicle *or* risk being charged with a traffic infraction by any police, sheriff or state patrol officer if HB1147 sponsored by Rep. John Kefalas (D-Larimer County) is enacted into law this year.

HB1147 requires any peace officer to charge minors and accompanying adults with a traffic ticket; instruct them that he/she should be wearing a helmet; provide a safety information card that explains the risks of not wearing a helmet and provide information where the child may obtain a helmet. This bill also requires the Government and Special Interest groups to develop a comprehensive educational curriculum for students that include bicycle safety and the use of hiking and bicycling trails.

The most alarming provision of the bill states “THE ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM PROVIDED IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A **LEARNING EXPERIENCE** FOR THE MINOR OR ACCOMPANYING ADULT AND A COMMUNITY **POLICING OPPORTUNITY** FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER”.

Why would we mandate a “learning experience” that opens the door to harassment and potential harm to our children in the name of education? More government intrusion, harassment and new opportunities for police impersonators will ultimately be more dangerous to our children and communities than any “learning” that takes place!

Will it be in the name of Education that we choose to lose our freedoms? Stand with me to fight this type of state policy that is well intentioned but, in my opinion, will be detrimental for our children and communities. HB1147 is scheduled for debate in the Colorado House of Representatives this week and I will continue to battle against this type of intrusive policy. If these and other types of policies concern you and your family please join me at my town hall meeting scheduled Saturday, March 6, from 9:00 – 10:30 am at the Security Fire Department, 400 Security Blvd. Speakers will include Senator Keith King, Sheriff Terry Maketa, Commissioner Sally Clark and PERA Commissioner Dennis Gatlin.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your family!

Marsha Looper

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