



# Oregon

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**DATE:** April 3, 2015

**TO:** House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development

**FROM:** Paul Mather, Administrator  
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**SUBJECT:** House Bill 3414

## INTRODUCTION

House Bill 3414 would require vehicles to remain in the right lanes on highways with two or more lanes of traffic in the same direction.

## DISCUSSION

House Bill 3414 requires vehicles to travel in the right lanes of state highways, county roads and city streets except under certain circumstances. The requirement applies when there are two or more lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction. The requirement doesn't apply when a person is passing, turning left, in emergency conditions, to avoid merging traffic or when following a traffic control device.

Should the legislature move forward with the bill, ODOT has some suggestions for improving clarity in the language. As written, the bill does not limit the application to high-speed highways; it would apply to those low-speed city streets when there is one-way traffic and more than two lanes. The legislature may want to consider applying the requirement to highways (including state highways, city streets, county roads) with a speed greater than 45 miles per hour. The legislature may also want to clarify in the bill, that the requirement doesn't apply when there is heavy congestion, and that all lanes of traffic may be used during those times.

While the bill does not require it, this type of law would likely be most effective if signs were installed letting drivers know of the requirement. One way to limit the fiscal impact of the bill is potentially apply the requirement only to the interstates in Oregon.

## SUMMARY

House Bill 3414 would require drivers to travel in the right lanes on multi-lane roads. Some clarification could help with conflicts on low-speed roads and during times of congestion. Installing signs to inform drivers of the law may help with compliance.