

Members of the House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development:

As a motorcycle rider, automobile driver, and bicycle rider living in SE Portland I support Senate Bill 694. I would like to ask members of this committee to also support the bill and vote “aye” on the bill. Your “aye” vote will help Oregon reduce traffic congestion, increase motorcycle safety, and enable us to better utilize our existing infrastructure in a time of decreasing transportation funding.

The bill would allow motorcycles and scooters to filter between lanes of traffic when traffic is stopped or going 10 mph or less and the motorcycle could only travel at a speed of 20 mph or less (i.e. school zone speed). The bill only applies to freeways and highways with posted speeds of 50 mph or more. The bill is timely given both the congestion problems facing our state, and Governor Brown’s transportation initiatives.

SB 694 passed the Oregon Senate on 23 April by a bipartisan 18-10-2 vote. It also received a 5-0 “do pass” recommendation out of the bipartisan Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Motorcyclists and the general public alike are in support of the bill as demonstrated in a recent poll (see below) associated with an Oregonian article by Joseph Rose on April 23, 2015. The results show a solid three-fourths majority in favor of the bill.



As Oregon continues to experience increased pressure on our transportation infrastructure it is important to find new and innovative ways to use the resources we currently have. This bill is part of that solution and I encourage members of this committee will vote “aye”. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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