

The purpose of this letter is to write in support of SB 694 A that is before the Committee. I understand this bill will allow operators of motorcycles (and mopeds) to travel between adjacent lanes of highway traffic (traveling in the same direction) during jams and slowdowns to 10 MPH or less.

I have spent many hours stuck in Portland metro traffic. According to TomTom (<http://www.tomtom.com/>), traffic congestion in Portland is the 10th worst in the United States. Portland traffic congestion is rated worse than Atlanta, Boston, San Diego and Philadelphia, just to name a few. I have lived in both the Boston and Atlanta areas and feel that this TomTom rating is accurate.

Besides enjoyment, I choose to ride a motorcycle for two reasons:

- it is considerably easier to find a parking space in cities and on college campuses
- it is extremely fuel efficient, even more so than a hybrid automobile such as a Prius

When I ride, I wear full protective safety gear including back protector, leather jacket/pants/boots/gloves and a helmet. As you can imagine this can become quite uncomfortable on a warm, sunny day. Sitting stationary in traffic becomes unbearable and makes me wish I were not wearing all my protective gear. My motorcycle then begins to overheat and my left arm develops cramps from clutch over-use.

If passed the bill would provide riders with the option to reduce their discomfort in traffic jams, which would improve rider safety while reducing traffic congestion.

Thank you and the Committee for this opportunity to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,  
Anna Garrison  
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