

**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session**  
**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Transportation and Economic Development**

**MEASURE: HB 3414 A**  
**CARRIER: Rep. Helm**

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 04/15/15

**Action:** Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

**Meeting Dates:** 04/03, 04/15

**Vote:**

Yeas: 6 - Bentz, Davis, Hack, Lively, McKeown, McLain

Exc: 1 - Gorsek

**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Creates offense of failure to keep a vehicle in the right lane on roads with posted speed greater than 45 miles per hour. Specifies offense does not occur when traffic is moving slower than the normal flow of traffic. Designates offense as Class B traffic violation punishable by maximum fine of \$1,000. Exempts drivers of vehicles governed by ORS 811.325. Outlines conditions under which driving in the far left lane is allowable.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Incidences of road rage related to left-lane driving
- Number of citations for left-lane driving in Washington
- Proposed amendment
- Unlikely to be enforced during periods of traffic congestion

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Limits applicability to roads with posted speeds greater than 45 miles per hour. Specifies measure does not apply when traffic is moving slower than the normal flow of traffic.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under current statute, certain motor vehicles are required to remain in the right-most lane while traveling along a multilane highway. Unlike many other states, Oregon does not designate the left-most lane of multilane highways as a passing lane. In those states, a driver can be cited for failing to move back into the right-hand lane after passing a slower vehicle moving in the same direction. However, ORS 811.325 specifies that campers, trailers and vehicles with a registered weight of over 10,000 pounds must be driven in the right lane except to pass, to turn left, to avoid emergency conditions, to allow vehicles to merge from an onramp, or when necessary to follow traffic control devices. The offense is considered a Class B traffic violation, punishable by a maximum fine of \$1,000.

House Bill 3414-A expands the applicability of the prohibition against traveling in the left-most lane to all vehicles. The measure limits applicability to roads with posted speeds greater than 45 miles per hour, and would not apply during traffic congestion.