

Scott Simonton

8:21 AM

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Testimonial....

To: suze@suzeriley.com

Suze- Here's my story of being rear-ended in traffic.....While this didn't occur on a road that would be covered in the proposed lane filtering legislation, it may still warrant a mention.

I commute by motorcycle most days. I have been doing so for the last 12 years. August 25 2010, I began my usual morning commute. Good weather, nice clear morning. As I reached the intersection of Hwy 99 and Roy Rogers Rd., the traffic signal turned red. Just as I came to a stop, I felt an impact from behind, and was thrown from my motorcycle to the pavement. I remember having time to wonder what just hit me. I thought, "if that was a heavy truck, I'm probably dead." I hoped for a Volkswagen. Interesting how time seems to slow down during these events.

As it turns out, a young man in a Mitsubishi sedan has failed to see the red light, and hit me at nearly full speed. The police believed he was texting at the time. Laying on the road, I quickly evaluated myself. Good news, all my limbs still worked. Good gear (expensive gear...) had done its job, as I was relatively OK, save for the screaming pain in my lower back. I took an ambulance ride to Tuality Hospital that morning. After being checked out, it was determined that it was merely soft tissue damage. Some physical therapy, and a few days off work resulted.

My beloved Triumph Thruxton was totaled. My back hurts to this day, when I do any heavy lifting. All in all, I was very, very lucky.

Lane filtering is often viewed as motorcycles travelling between lanes of traffic. Another way to apply it is the legal ability for a motorcyclist to occupy the space between two lanes of cars stopped at an intersection, just as bicyclists do. Had this been legal, I would have taken advantage of it, and would have simply been a witness to two automobiles in a rear end collision.

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