

To the members of the Joint Transportation Committee, my name is Jamal Khoury and I commute year round via motorcycle from Southeast Portland to Tigard for my job as a Manager. I request your support for SB574 this year. Congestion is becoming a major problem in the Portland metro area costing us millions of dollars per year, especially during rush hour. Portland has made it very clear that they don't want added massive highway expansions and I respect that decision. Many people during these times are single passenger commuters. Motorcycles, despite being smaller, more economic, efficient, and agile, are lumped in with these larger vehicles contributing to congestion. Whenever I'm on the highway and stuck in the jammed queue, I stare longingly at the wide space in between lanes my motorcycle can easily fit into, and just wish it was legal. Motorcycle lane sharing is practiced throughout most of the world as a way to relieve congestion and added safety for motorcyclists. It also reduces a metropolis' carbon footprint. I respect peoples concerns about the perceived safeness of the practice. However, at the low speeds and circumstances this maneuver will be restricted to, I believe motorists in cars will adjust quickly. We as motorcyclists are not asking drivers in cars to do anything different then they otherwise would! Check your side mirrors, shoulder check, then signal prior to changing lanes. I know as a motorcyclist, having more escape routes, and the ability to have more options as a lane sharer would also be very beneficial. I strongly believe that when this becomes legalized, more and more people will take up motorcycling who are single passengers, and further help traffic flow and function. Thanks for your time and consideration,

Jamal Khoury