

Senator Lee Beyer and Representative Susan McLain
Chairs, Joint Committee on Transportation

March 1, 2021

RE: SB 574

Dear Chairs Beyer and McLain and Members of the Committee:

On July 26, 2018, I was riding my motorcycle in the left lane on Interstate 5 South near Tualatin, Oregon, when traffic slowed in front of me to a complete stop. I stopped behind the car in front of me, but the car behind me failed to stop. I was rear-ended and pushed onto the shoulder and concrete barrier and suffered serious injuries, including at least one compression fracture in my spine.

I have ridden motorcycles for 32 years and have avoided numerous accidents using my experience and judgment. However, there was no way I could have predicted being rear-ended and taken emergency action to avoid this accident. The car struck me before I could even react.

I believe my accident and injury could have been avoided if I had been allowed to legally filter when the traffic on I-5 slowed to a stop. I would not have been in the lane behind the stopped car and rear-ended by the car behind me. As a rider, I need to be able to ride in the safest way possible at all times, which was not what I was allowed to do when my accident happened.

I strongly urge the committee to recommend passage of SB 574 so that riders like me can safely filter between lanes during traffic jams instead of being rear-ended like I was.

Thank you,

Robert Bible
Lebanon, Oregon