

Submitter: James Tibbetts
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB422

Thank you to all those taking the time to listen to all these testimonials, both in support and opposition of this potential change.

I have been a driver of motor vehicles for 18 years in the state of Oregon and a motorcyclist of 15 years. I feel as a rider who knowingly accepts additional safety risks while riding, and as a driver who shares equal responsibilities of our roadways; I have experienced both sides of motorcyclists lane splitting and what the changes mean to both drivers and motorcyclists alike.

Many in opposition of this change may feel that this will increase hazardous situations on our roadways. However, I believe individuals who knowingly create dangerous situations on our roadways will do so with or without a change of law.

As a rider, this gives us many more options when we as riders feel that we are in unsafe scenarios. It is our number one priority as riders to always have escape routes in mind while we are around other vehicles.

There are numerous times motor vehiclists do not notice us on bikes, or are being unsafe with how close they are getting to us on the roadway.

It is imperative, that we have the means and right to protect ourselves on public roadways.

Lane splitting to avoid unsafe situations is a giant leap forward in motorcyclists safety. I believe most riders are respectful and safe riders just trying to get home to their families at the end of the day, as are we all.

Please do not dissalow us the means of safety we deserve and fight for. My daughter turned 9 in September and I had my car totalled by a drunk DRIVER in December. My motorcycle is my current only means of transportation even during these cold winter months. It scares me when I'm stuck between multiple unsafe drivers in traffic. Knowing if I could move to a safer location on the roadway would be a weight lifted off my shoulders, and increase my odds of getting to my daughter safely at the end of a work day.

Those wreaking havoc on the streets doing wheelies and breaking laws will always do so with or without a law change. However what this does is increase driver awareness knowing that we as motorcyclists have the ride to share a lane when we

deem is necessary for our safety. This provides increased rider awareness and safety for everyone involved.

Please consider this testimony and others in support of this motion, as I know they have loved ones they care about as well.

Thank you,
A loving Father