

Submitter: Jared Pero  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB422

Greetings to the Panel,

I have been an Oregon motorcyclist since I was old enough to get an endorsement 43 years ago. I'm in favor of SB 422.

The practice of lane sharing / splitting has been in practice all over the world for decades. Having the option to ride through stalled or slow moving traffic and has proven its usefulness in keeping riders safer from getting hit by non motorcycle vehicles. I'm sure that the Panel has seen the statistics that back this up. I personally have had to "split the lane" to avoid being hit by other vehicle operators numerous times over the years. In all my years of riding all over the country I have never been hit by another vehicle other than a motorcycle that was hit by a man driving a car that changed lanes into that rider knocking her off her motorcycle and causing her motorcycle to hit mine, which caused me to crash for the only time ever on a motorcycle. Both motorcycles were destroyed and both riders were hospitalized. I'm telling you about this incident to highlight the seeming lack of awareness, from my point of view as a rider, that many car drivers display while operating their vehicles. By that I mean that this happened on a Portland freeway at time of day where there were no cars ahead of us in sight and just this one lone driver of a car not paying attention and how quickly disaster can strike. Now compound that with the refusal of vehicle operators that refuse to ignore their wireless phones while driving at speed on our freeways and byways.

Please give the ability of motorcycles riders to help keep themselves and others safe by giving them this option to pass through traffic that is stalled as stated in the context of this important, lifesaving, legislation.

Sincerely Jared Pero