

To whom it may concern;

My name is Jasmine Boie. I am not a motorcycle operator, merely a licensed driver. I am 30 years old but have only had my driver's license for about six years. As you all may well know, this state has phenomenal public transportation. This allows many Oregonians, myself included, great leisure in the decision to obtain a driver's license. All of this to say I am far from alone in being a fairly new driver in Oregon.

In the years that I have been driving, my greatest fear is that my inexperience could cause bodily or financial harm to a fellow Oregon citizen. This fear motivates me to follow the laws of the road to the letter. It motivates me to be aware of my surroundings and anticipate the road ahead.

I write to you today in support of SB 422 because motorcycle operators have this same motivation, and they desire to use this motivation to make the roads safer for everyone in this state. I personally would feel much safer with a motorcycle sharing the lane with me than being forced to stay directly behind me, particularly in an emergency situation.

I fear to think what might happen if I stop suddenly and a motorcycle operator did not have time to react. The consequences of this would be much more severe than if a motor vehicle operator did not have time to react. It could be the difference between a fender bender and a funeral.

Motorcycle operators currently follow the same laws as vehicle operators, and I feel this puts them in great harm. They have no legal exit strategy if the car in front of them stops too suddenly for them to react. By the nature of their vehicle of choice, motorcycle operators are already tasked with being more vigilant and better at anticipating the road ahead than motor vehicle operators. Are we really going to continue to ask that in addition to this, they willingly forfeit their physical well-being to follow a one-size-fits-all law?

Thank you for your time and consideration.