

Submitter: Victor Pritzker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB422

I am a life long motorcyclist, now 80 years old. I lived in California for 45 years before moving to Oregon. I literally rode my motorcycle every day including lane sharing on freeways and filtering within cities every day starting when I began legally riding, while still in high school. After I relocated my family to Oregon over thirty years ago I continued to work in various positions in CA that allowed me to work remotely from Portland. However I "Commuted" as often as twice a month to the SF Bay Area by motorcycle which entailed consistent Lane sharing and filtering once I returned to CA. In all that time I never had any sort of accident that resulted from that activity. I never interfered with the progress or safety of any other motorist, or received any sort of citation for unsafe or illegal riding. It is clear from many studies that this practice is safe, in fact safer for the motorcyclist than trying to maintain a position within a lane during stop and go traffic which leaves the motorcyclist vulnerable to drivers that are not paying attention; a common condition. Other studies provide proof that this practice aids in lessening traffic congestion as every motorcycle that is doing so is not taking up a car sized traffic space (Literally removing one car from the congestion). This is true on highways and within cities as well. I would also like to point out a few other salient facts. The CA Highway Patrol actively supports this practice which is now also legal in several other states and proving to be safe and is aiding in relieving congestion. But the most important fact is that this practice is legal in most other countries, all over the world where motorcycles are much more popular in terms of regular usage. It is very possible that is so at least in part because this practice makes motorcycle transportation very convenient, safe and useful in avoiding being caught up in traffic while driving a car. In all those countries motorcyclists are not constrained by, and caught up in sluggish traffic. It is very possible that allowing this practice would encourage more MC usage which in turn would aid in lessening traffic congestion. I sincerely hope you will take these facts under consideration and vote favorably on this issue and do your part in helping to relieve congestion, and indeed pollution which goes hand in hand with congestion, and allow motorcyclists to use this safe, and convenient practice, which in no way interferes with other vehicles and is a proven safe practice that also lessens congestion. Thank you in advance for your kind attention.