

Submitter: Evan Marshall
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB422

I am voicing my support for SB422 as a motorcycle rider with many tens of thousands of miles over a decade of on-street time without incident. Getting on a motorcycle is innately an exercise in risk management. While lane-splitting does introduce new risks, I believe that with prudent riding it is more than balanced out by the good it does.

When riding a motorcycle, it feels very vulnerable when highway traffic suddenly slows to a crawl from highway speed. You have to trust that the person behind you is paying attention. Being able to safely and legally proceed forward gives me more options. I have a much greater ability to respond to obstacles ahead of me than inattentive drivers behind. The magnitude of risk of hitting someone's car door at 10mph when they decide they need to dump their coffee out at that exact moment is substantially less than getting hammered from behind at highway speed.

"Don't you get hot?" It's no problem! My bike has heat and AC...heat in the summer, and air conditioning in the winter. Sitting on the blacktop in the scorching sun in full safety gear definitely takes it out of you. Even a light breeze helps keep you cool and drastically reduces fatigue, resulting in a more comfortable, alert rider. Being able to keep moving even at a crawl directly correlates to safety.

Our neighbors to the south in California have allowed lane-splitting for years. It's high time we do too.