

Submitter: Matthew Fellows

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: SB422

It's disheartening to see firsthand here in Taipei, Taiwan today that motorcycles are not legally even allowed on the freeways. It seems like they've made a conscious choice to relegate motorcycling to a city-only experience. Just breathing the air here in the city is not great because these scooters and small-displacement motorcycles just can't carry the same emissions equipment as a full-sized automobile. A full-sized catalytic converter on a car obviously eliminates far more hydrocarbons than one would on a motorcycle at idle. We know as motorcyclists, that lane-splitting is mostly a safety issue for us. We don't want to get squashed between two large automobiles (or other large vehicles) by folks who aren't paying attention in traffic. By also--why have us sitting there at idle, in traffic, wasting more oil and gas when we could be operating the vehicle more efficiently by moving through traffic gently and furthermore helping our companions in automobiles and trucks to get home (or to their destinations) quicker and more fuel-efficiently as well? As Portlanders in particular, we want to celebrate and encourage alternate forms of transportation. Bicycling, Personal Electrics all have a HUGE footprint here. Why not motorcycles? You have some great dealerships and a healthy accessories economy here. Let's do all we can to keep motorcycling safe and flourishing here in Oregon. Please pass lane-sharing!