

Submitter: Jared Boehm
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB422

As a passionate advocate for road safety and efficient transportation, I am writing this testimony to express my strong support for the lane splitting measure being considered in Oregon. The passage of this legislation would bring about numerous benefits for both motorcyclists and motorists, ultimately making our roads safer and more efficient for all users.

First and foremost, lane splitting has been proven to reduce traffic congestion. As motorcyclists navigate between lanes, they can more efficiently utilize road space, resulting in shorter travel times for all road users. Studies conducted in regions where lane splitting is legal, such as California and various European countries, have consistently shown that this practice reduces overall congestion, leading to decreased travel times for everyone on the road.

Moreover, lane splitting has been shown to improve overall road safety. Research indicates that lane-splitting motorcyclists are less likely to be involved in rear-end collisions, as they are not stationary targets for distracted or inattentive drivers. This translates into a lower risk of injury and fatalities for motorcyclists, as well as reduced insurance costs.

Additionally, lane splitting has environmental benefits. As motorcyclists spend less time stuck in traffic, they consume less fuel and produce fewer emissions. This helps reduce our carbon footprint and contributes to a cleaner, greener environment for all Oregonians.

Lastly, it is important to note that lane splitting does not increase the risk of accidents when done responsibly. In fact, the California Highway Patrol and the University of California Berkeley conducted a study that found no significant increase in accident rates among lane-splitting motorcyclists compared to those who do not lane split.

In conclusion, the adoption of the lane splitting measure in Oregon is a forward-thinking approach that has the potential to alleviate traffic congestion, improve road safety, reduce environmental impact, and maintain responsible riding practices. I urge you to support this legislation and help create a safer and more efficient transportation system for all Oregonians.