

Submitter: Shawna Vreeke
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB422

I am in support of lane splitting. As a fellow motorcycle rider who grew up in California, I know that lane splitting is the safest way to allow motorcycle riders to have more control over their options surrounding vehicle traffic. Additionally, I have a PhD and am a practicing toxicologist, where my entire career is focused of risk assessment. Allowing a motorcycle rider to travel in between lanes is the safest option to maneuver around a car. The alternatives are generally to slam on the breaks, causing the bike to become unstable, or hope and prey the vehicle's driver will see you before they completely move into your lane, both options are unacceptable. Furthermore, motorcycles do not have the ability to self-cool their engines, therefor, sitting idle in traffic can be dangerous to the bike and the individual riding it as the engine can heat to a point that is beyond safe levels. Additionally, I would like to suggest removing the language that only allows lane splitting on roads in which the speed limit is 50 mph or more. A vast majority of commuter roads in the Portland Metro area are surface streets, and motorcycle riders do encounter the same unsafe conditions that I have mentioned above.