Greetings,

I am contacting you in the hopes that you will vote in favor of HB2314 for Oregon Lane Sharing.

Numerous studies have come to show just how safe motorcycle lane sharing can be. It's been effective in the state of California for many years, and if you've driven in California you'd understand just how dangerous and off kilter the roads there can be. And yet it has proven to be a success.

There are considerable environmental benefits that can be found by allowing lane sharing. Allowing motorcyclists to share lanes encourages more people to ride motorcycles, this in turn reduces congestion on our highways.

These changes to allow lane splitting are not without rules and limits, and these limits will keep our streets safe.

I'll be honest with you, I always thought lane splitting was crazy, and not something I would ever consider until a few years ago when I saw for myself just how effective and safe it can be. On a a trip to southern California I entered the first metropolitan area approaching San Fransisco I found myself immediately penned in by traffic. It was in that 100 degree heat of Summer that I suddenly noticed that I was being passed by, while sitting in traffic, by dozens of motorbikes. It seemed intimidating, and yes, crazy to me at first. But after several minutes of stand still traffic I decided to try it out myself. It took some getting use to but once my confidence was up and my awareness of other drivers was heightened, I saw just how effective lane splitting could be.

Motorcycles are obviously different from automobiles. Speaking as someone who rides a motorcycle I can tell you that I would not endorse something like this if I did not believe it was safe. I understand just how life threatening it can be to ride a motorcycle. I would never intentionally ride in an unsafe manner because I know just how dangerous, even deadly it can be on these roads.

I hope we can count on your support for HB2314. Thank you Chad Simmons