

Dear Joint Committee On Transportation,

I am writing in support of SB574 and I am asking for your yes vote.

I am a retired Coast Guard Chief and spent my last four years stationed in San Francisco California. While I was there I Commuted everyday across the Bay Bridge to Treasure Island. It was a daily occurrence for motorcycle riders to lane split. In four years I never saw an accident caused by this safe and convenient traffic scheme.

Since moving back to Portland I have chosen to commute via motorcycle. Primarily this decision was based on fuel savings and environmental concern. I quickly began to appreciate the convenience of being allowed to use the carpool lane between where I work at OHSU and live on Hayden Island. Unfortunately I have noticed recently that the carpool lane is increasingly used by single occupant vehicles (carpool cheaters). Because of this the carpool lane is often traveling as slow as all of the other lanes of traffic, completely negating the intended purpose of the lane.

If you vote yes on SB574 I would legally be able to safely and carefully remain outside of this dangerous stop-and-go flow of traffic and I would save on fuel and wear and tear of my vehicle. It would also be better for the environment as well as increase traffic flow for my fellow commuters.

Please, members of the Committee, Vote yes on SB574. Let's keep Oregon moving.

Sincerely,

Timothy Henderson