

As a motorcyclist of 12 years and past motorcycle instructor I support this bill, and strongly stress the safety that lane sharing gives to motorcyclists - some of the most vulnerable road users.

I myself have been in a motorcycle accident in which, while stopped at the back of a line of traffic, an inattentive motorist drove into the back of me, knocking me off my motorcycle. This accident would have been a fender bender for a car, but being on a motorcycle I suffered far more injury and pain through no fault of my own. Lane sharing - where I could have positioned myself at the front of this line of traffic, would have helped me avoid this accident. Studies have been done that back up the theory that lane splitting reduces injury rates for motorcyclists due to the reduction of rear end collisions, which are the most common type of road accident: <https://trid.trb.org/view/1361005>

In addition to the safety aspect, lane splitting also reduces overall congestion for ALL road users, by a significant amount. This was confirmed in a Belgian study in 2012: https://newatlas.com/motorcycles-reduce-congestion/21420/?itm_source=newatlas&itm_medium=article-body

I think any safe motorcyclist would agree that the limitations included in SB574 (<10mph traffic speed, <10mph speed differential) are appropriate and fair, solving both the safety issues and giving help to congestion, without promoting unsafe practice of lane sharing at speed.