

I respectfully urge you to support **SB574**

Lane sharing increases safety for motorcyclists, especially in heavy traffic where we are most vulnerable to collisions from vehicles following behind our motorcycle. Commuting regularly on highway 26 I have had to employ emergency maneuvers to avoid careless/reckless drivers behind me from running into me during the highly congested evening commutes.

Legal lane sharing will also increase overall road safety by decreasing the currently illegal and unpredictable lane sharing & shoulder surfing that some motorcyclists currently engage in.

Studies have established the increased safety for motorcyclists when common sense legal lane sharing is practiced.

Lane sharing reduces traffic congestion. The Portland metro is a driving nightmare for commuters and there are limited public transportation options for those of us who live on the east side & work in the western suburbs, where some of the region's largest employers are located. *Multiple studies confirm that legal lane sharing reduces congestion and is practiced regularly in some of the most congested areas of the world.*

Reduced congestion is beneficial for the environment through reduced emissions & gas consumption.

Reduced congestion on our major roadways benefits all drivers with shorter commutes.

Lane sharing increases participation in motorcycling. As motorcycles are able to safely and efficiently move through traffic, more people become interested in motorcycling and motorcycle commuting. Even small increases in motorcycle commuting have been shown to have significant impacts on congestion as each new motorcyclist removes one car from the roadway.

Oregon businesses benefit from increased participation. Sales of motorcycles, parts and accessories along with participation in local events drive even more dollars into local economies.

The environment benefits from increased use of more fuel efficient and electric motorcycles over other vehicles.

In closing, legal prescribed lane sharing for motorcyclists increases motorcyclist safety and can help reduce traffic on busy roadways. This bill would benefit all drivers on some Oregon's heavily congested roadways.

Thank you,
Dylan Steeb