

As a motorcyclist safety when riding on the street is always in the forefront of my mind. The 2 situations that concern me most and I consider when I am at highest risk are 1) getting rear ended at a stoplight and 2) someone pulling out in front of me or hitting me from the side. The second risk is mitigated by constantly scanning and looking ahead, monitoring for all potential traffic entering from the sides. I truly believe being a motorcyclist makes people better drivers as well since this practice gets ingrained into habit regardless of the vehicle. However, my first risk mentioned above is difficult to mitigate personally. I cannot stare at my rearview mirror when at a stoplight and still look ahead for a changing light and be scanning for traffic to the front and sides effectively while gauging if cars behind me are really stopping, which is often difficult to tell. Intersections are dangerous. A good friend of mine was rear ended at a stoplight on his motorcycle. He was thrown across the intersection, sliding into the far curb and suffered major injuries. My adult daughter was nearly killed in a car when she was t-boned by someone running a red light as she proceeded on a green light. Giving motorcycles the ability to lane split will allow me to be safer at an intersection. If a car doesn't appear to be stopping coming up behind me, where do I go? Into the intersection and cross traffic? Being between 2 cars protects me from being rear ended and most or all of the impact force would be absorbed by an adjacent vehicle. I will have peace of mind and be able to focus more on scanning the left and right directions to avoid being t-boned. Thank you for your consideration of this bill to improve safety on the road for motorcyclists.