

As a former resident of California for almost 45 years and a motorcycle rider for nearly 28 years I have had the ability to legally split lanes for most of my riding life. When traffic is bad, it offered an incentive to leave my 20 MPG diesel truck in the garage and commute on my 50 MPG motorcycle that takes up 1/4 of the road space. Since moving to Oregon four years ago, I've never considered riding for my commute. There is no incentive here that outweighs the risks that come along with riding in any state. Traffic is as bad in Oregon as in many places of California. What Oregon needs is fewer big single-occupant vehicles on the road. It will make a huge difference. There is an adjustment period for everyone but once we get through that, splitting lanes can be done safely. My only recommendation is that, should the Bill pass, there is an advertising campaign to let motorists know that it is legal. This prevents aggressive drivers from blocking motorcyclists and, as is the case in CA, many begin making a bit of extra space between the fast lane and then next one over for motorcycles. It also encourages more drivers to ride.