

Senator Lee Beyer and Representative Susan McLain
Chairs, Joint Committee on Transportation

March 1, 2021

RE: SB 574

Dear Chairs Beyer and McLain and Members of the Committee:

My name is Zander McHade. I am writing you to support SB 574. On April 6, 2014, I was riding my motorcycle in Mehama, Oregon when I slowed to make a left turn while using my turn signal when a car struck me from behind throwing me 45 feet and onto the pavement. When I was hit I was wearing a bright hi-vis helmet and a bright hi-vis vest.

As a result, I sustained injuries to my back, right hip, and right shoulder, including a shoulder tear that required surgery. As a result, I have a permanent injury in my shoulder that will affect me for the rest of my life.

The driver who struck me from behind admitted that he was on his cell phone when he struck me which I think was reckless and without regard to my safety or the safety of other road users. The driver left the scene in his car with a ticket for following too closely and driving while on his cell phone and was fined \$210. I ended up in the hospital.

As a rider I do all that I can to ride safely and make sure that I am seen by other road users, but there is nothing that I can do to be seen by drivers who are on or looking at their cell phone. What I do need as a rider is the ability to use any safe options that I have to minimize my risk. For me that means being able to safely filter between lanes of stopped or slow traffic so that I am not subjected to a rear-end accident like the one that I had. SB 574 would allow me and other riders to safely filter on highways and freeways in dangerous stop-and-go situations when rear-end accidents happen frequently. I hope that you will recommend passage of SB 574.

Thank you,

Zander McHade
Portland, Oregon