

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

I am writing to you to urge support for Senate Bill 574, Relating to vehicle filtering in traffic slowdowns. I have travelled in California on multiple occasions, for extended periods, on motorcycle. I have seen first hand how well implemented California's law on lane splitting and lane filtering is implemented in that state. I know the Oregon proposal is not the same, but it proposes a variation of the concept of lane splitting during traffic slowdowns. I believe very strongly that this would be beneficial to all motorists, by reducing traffic congestion at critical times, and increasing rider safety by reducing the likelihood of motorcyclists being struck from behind by inattentive and impatient drivers. It takes only a moment for a car following a car length or two behind a motorcycle to create a tragic collision. A collision that tends to have far less consequences between two cars can become a maiming or deadly incident when it is between a car and a motorcycle. California is a shining example of how lane splitting can become a safe and widely embraced concept in Oregon, given the opportunity and time. Please vote Yes to allow SB 574 to move forward.