

I respectfully request your support of SB574. While the physics of why it is dangerous to ride a motorcycle between the bumpers of the other forms of vehicular traffic on public roads is obvious, even to most children, what may not be obvious is what SB574 is really deciding. The safety of lane filtering is born out in the Rice report data co-authored by the State of California, and the University of California Berkeley and is indisputable. Having a vehicle that has no bumpers, crumple zones, seat belts, or airbags sitting in traffic in the very space between vehicles where collisions are most likely to occur due to a matter of physics is obviously unsafe and could be understood by those same children mentioned above. What I believe is being decided is not just law but whether to change preconceived/common societal notions of safe motorcycle travel. This is about not just simple lane position or relative speed to other vehicle drivers, but whether as a society we can come to the mutual position that not only is lane sharing/filtering safer for the motorcyclist, it's beneficial for society as a whole. SB574 would ease the state budget spending on infrastructure to accommodate more vehicles and reduce congestion during peak traffic. With motorcycles being able to lane filter, SB574 would reduce the time which motorcycles are idling in traffic, easing the environmental pollutants of each motorcyclist and drivers commutes. With the realization of fewer motorcyclist injuries or deaths in multi-vehicle accidents with the adoption of SB574, we as a society would benefit from reduced medical and loss of life costs as well. I believe the common thought that needs to be overcome is the idea that motorcyclists are receiving an "advantage" personally through lane filtering. If the law is passed Oregon will have to do PSA's much like it has with the Covid-19 pandemic, or a similar measure, to educate the community throughout Oregon about the legal use of SB574 and the benefits to all of us. Yes, motorcyclists will have the option to choose to lane filter under the conditions that SB574 would legalize. But, SB574 legalizes the option to any current or future licensed motorcycle rider. And, the more commuters who choose to take advantage of the law the more it lessens traffic congestion, decreases environmental impacts, and improves societal awareness of motorcycle safety. Thank you for considering SB574.