

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

March 2, 2023

Senate Committee on Judiciary in Support of SB 422

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee,

I am Janeen Sollman, State Senator from District 15 which includes areas of Western Washington County. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today in support of Senate Bill 422. This bill will allow a motorcycle operator to travel between lanes of traffic under certain conditions. Allowing motorcyclists to do so would reduce the number of accidents and ultimately, fatalities on our roads. There is data from Utah, where they implemented similar legislation in 2018, and the number of deaths from motorcycle accidents dropped dramatically in the following years. According to motorcycle safety consultant Steven Guderian, lane splitting “is actually a viable safety technique that removes the motorcycle and rider from the danger spot behind a stopped car, and places the motorcycle into the more secure safety envelope that is created between two larger vehicles.”

I am an advocate for environmental change, and not only could this bill minimize the number of casualties, but it also helps to reduce congestions and ultimately greenhouse gases. By allowing motorcycles to bypass cars, we’re decreasing the number of vehicles emitting exhaust on the road. Many of our residents have travelled in California where it is also legal to travel between lanes and have reported on better, safer, and shorter commutes.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share my support of SB 422. I respectfully urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janeen Sollman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15