SB 422 - Lane Filtering

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• What is Lane Splitting?

- Lane Splitting is when a motorcycle rides safely between lanes at a **speed differential of 10 mph or less** with surrounding traffic at highways speeds, but is safest when **traffic speed is 30 mph or less**. Lane Splitting is **legal only in California**.
- What is Lane Filtering?
 - Lane Filtering is when a motorcycle rides safely between lanes at low speed with a **speed differential of 10 mph or less** when **traffic is stopped or traveling at 10 mph or less**. Lane Filtering is now **legal in California, Montana, Utah, and Arizona.**

Fig. 1 Lane Filtering

- Why is this a safety issue for motorcyclists?
 - According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, **40% of all motor vehicle accidents are rear-end accidents**. Under current Oregon law, motorcyclists are often forced to place themselves in the "blind spot" part of the lane where drivers **cannot see them** and between automobiles and trucks during **potential rear-end accident situations** which can result in **serious injuries and fatalities** even at low speeds due to the motorcyclist being pinched between two vehicles at the "**pinch point**."

• Why is Lane Splitting/Filtering Safer?

- Providing motorcyclists with the option of safely riding between lanes **removes them from the "blind spot"** and places them in full view of the drivers' side mirror and provides them with a **safe alternative in "pinch point" situations.**
- According to a recent study of 7,836 motorcycle accidents in California by UC Berkeley and the California Highway Patrol, in lane splitting accidents there were: 55% fewer fatalities; 45% fewer head injuries; 21% fewer neck injuries; 32% fewer torso injuries; and 12% fewer arm/leg injuries.
- Why is Lane Splitting/Filtering More Efficient?
 - Lane Splitting reduces traffic congestion during traffic stoppages and slowdowns by allowing motorcyclists to filter through traffic safely and efficiently. It also reduces the number of automobiles on the road and reduces carbon emissions by encouraging the use of more fuel-efficient alternative vehicles and reduces strain on infrastructure.
- What is SB 422?
 - SB 422 allows for <u>lane filtering</u> only on freeways and highways when traffic is completely stopped or traveling 10 mph or less and then only at a speed differential of 10 mph or less. It removes motorcyclists from the "pinch point" in vulnerable stopand-go traffic situations during commuting hours and in other adverse conditions.

