

Submitter: David Palomino  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3542

I wholeheartedly support HB 3542 to allow motorcycle lane sharing in Oregon under limited circumstances.

I am a year round daily motorcycle commuter between NE Portland and Beaverton. Often the most dangerous part of my commute is in slow or stop and go traffic. In these situations I am much more likely to be struck from behind by inattentive drivers. I have been rear-ended on the freeway in stop and go traffic, and I am lucky that I happened to be in my car that day. My car was totalled, and had I been on my motorcycle I would likely not have survived.

Sharing lanes at low speed allows motorcyclists to remove themselves from the main portion of the lanes, out of the way of nearby drivers. Contrary to the perception of many drivers, it is very easy as a motorcyclist to safely navigate in a lane sharing situation, especially at the low speeds called out in the bill where there is no room for a car to change lanes.

Following the example of states throughout the country, including Colorado, Utah, Montana, Minnesota, California and Arizona, who have all have passed similar laws, H.B. 3542 would improve rider safety, reduce traffic congestion and lower emissions.

By passing H.B. 3542, Oregon can enhance road safety and efficiency. I am asking for your support for this important legislation.

Thank you for your time.