

# SB24-079

## Motorcycle Lane Filtering & Passing

Current law prohibits motorcyclists from lane filtering, in which the 2-wheeled motorcycle overtakes or passes another motor vehicle at a low rate of speed. The practice of lane filtering reduces the chances of a rear end crash, because the motorcyclist may pass through traffic more efficiently.

The bill is supported by the PowerSports Dealer Association and the American Motorcycle Association.

The state of New South Wales, Australia, conducted a two-year trial of lane filtering which concluded that the practice is relatively low risk. A 2010 Oregon department of transportation review also concluded that lane filtering crashes were rare in areas where the practice was legal and widely used. Montana, Utah, and Arizona have legalized lane filtering within the last five years, and Utah has extended the policy following a sunset review.

The bill amended the prohibition so that motorcyclists may lane filtering if:

- The other motor vehicles are stopped while traveling in the same direction as the motorcycle;
- The road has lanes wide enough to pass safely;
- The motorcycle is moving at 15 miles per hour or less; and
- Conditions permit prudent operation of the motorcycle while overtaking or passing.

The bills prohibits lane-filtering when:

- On the right shoulder;
- To the right of a vehicle in the farthest right-hand lane if the highway is not limited access; or
- In a lane of traffic moving in the opposite direction