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Baltimore and Harford Counties

MINORITY WHIP

Health and Government Operations Committee

Insurance Subcommittee

Public Health and Minority Health Disparities Subcommittee

> Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee



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Environment and Transportation Committee February 27, 2020

HB920 Motor Vehicles - Motorcycles - Overtaking and Passing Vehicles

Make Roads Safer for Motorcycle Riders

Why Do We Need This Bill?

Studies show that responsible lane splitting can increase the average speed of traffic for all road users, save fuel, and make the roads safer for motorcyclists by reducing the number of rear-end collisions.

In addition, motorcycles overheat when stuck in slowed traffic, which can cause major damage to the engine. Allowing motorcyclists to practice lane splitting will help riders stay safe and cool, as traditional car drivers are.

Motorcycle riders are safe in between lanes rather than in the lane while in slow or stopped traffic. A study conducted in 2011 found that California, where lane splitting is legal, has significantly fewer fatalities from rear-end collisions than other states. This bill will keep motorcyclists safe and reduce the number of collisions in the state of Maryland.

What This Bill Does

This bill would legalize lane splitting in Maryland, a practice in which motorcyclists drive in between slow or stopped traffic. In addition, it would require that the state agencies, including the Motor Vehicle Administration and State Highway Administration to develop guidelines for safe and appropriate lane splitting for motorcyclists and other road users.

Make Our Roads Safer For Motorcycle Riders

<u>Please Support HB920</u>