



State of Rhode Island

DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

State Police Headquarters, 311 Danielson Pike, North Scituate, Rhode Island 02857
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Colonel Darnell S. Weaver
Superintendent

February 5, 2026

The Honorable Carol Hagan McEntee, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
Rhode Island House of Representatives
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2026-H 7354– An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Passing, Use of Lanes and Rules of the Road

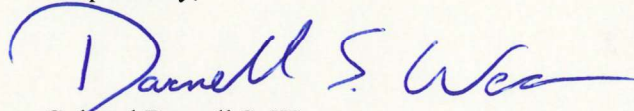
Dear Chairperson McEntee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island State Police, please accept this letter expressing concerns regarding legislation currently before the House Committee on Judiciary entitled, "Passing, Use of Lanes and Rules of the Road," which would legalize dangerous driving behavior.

Respectfully, the RISP opposes legalizing "lane filtering" for motorcycles. H-7354 would allow motorcyclists to squeeze through slow or standstill traffic at speeds of up to 20 miles per hour. This type of activity is inherently dangerous. A reasonable motorist will not expect a motorcyclist to accelerate past it in such a manner while in heavy traffic. Any movement from a vehicle could result in serious, lifechanging bodily injury to the motorcyclist. Moreover, enforcing a limit of 20 miles per hour while lane filtering will be nearly impossible. Police officers cannot lane filter a cruiser to catch up to a motorcycle that is maneuvering through heavy traffic. Legalizing lane filtering, even with a 20-mph limit, will promote reckless driving, road rage incidents and cause avoidable crashes.

I thank you for the opportunity to express the position of the Rhode Island State Police on legislation currently before the House Committee on Judiciary, H-7354 entitled, "An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Passing, Use of Lanes and Rules of the Road."

Respectfully,


Colonel Darnell S. Weaver

cc: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Major Ronald Longolucco
Adam Sholes, Esq. – DPS Chief Legal Counsel
Governor's Office