

Roberta DiMezza

From: Cameron Bigelow <rijcbigscape@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 9:48 AM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: House Bill # 7354; The Rhode Island Motorcycle Association; On Behalf of the President, Paul R. Bond. FOR.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Mrs. Roberta DiMezza; Committee Clerk,

Speaking as the President of the Rhode Island Motorcycle Association, on behalf of its Board, and its general membership, the Association will have to stand **FOR** House Bill 7354; in accordance with the terms of the Bill, which proposes to allow "Lane Filtering" by motorcycle operators in accordance with the terms of the Bill.

The Association is a Non Profit Motorcycle Rights Group that looks to Safety, Education and Legislation for the approximately 25,000 motorcyclists that are registered to operate in RI. Additionally, we serve as an active Member of the RI DOT Traffic Safety Coalition.

The Association supports this Bill for several reasons. Foremost, is that safety is enhanced whenever the motorcycle operator approaches the last in a line of vehicles in a traffic jam. Wherein, the motorcyclist is left completely exposed and vulnerable to being struck from behind by any type of vehicle -- especially so from distracted drivers. This Bill would allow the operator to enter the space between lanes and continue moving forward at a safe rate of speed, thereby removing the operator from the exposed danger zone.

Also, as many motorcycles are air cooled -- "Lane Filtering" helps the motorcycle to continue forward without overheating and stranding the operator in the highway.

In addition, constant "stops and starts" (in stop and go traffic) -- are particularly difficult for motorcyclists for a prolonged period of time. Rider fatigue becomes an issue, especially in hot weather. So, continuing forward between lanes once again helps the motorcyclist.

Currently, there are 7 States that have passed Bills allowing some form of "Lane Filtering": California, Arizona, Montana, Utah, Colorado, Hawaii, and Minnesota. However, it should be noted that the Laws are state-specific, with California being the leader, while others offer limited allowances for filtering in slow or stopped traffic.

Also, there are several States that are considering the practice thereof -- but have not yet fully passed enabling legislation.

Finally, the Association has read, duly noted and supports the clear, concise language expressed in the Bill text -- which clearly and properly limits the practice of "Lane Filtering" in a reasonable, practical and safe manner. Therefore, the Rhode Island Motorcycle Association is **FOR** House Bill 7354.

Paul R Bond, President
Rhode Island Motorcycle Association

My Contact Info:

Email: president@rimotorcycle.com
Phone: 401 742 6227

Submitted By:

Cam Bigelow, Secretary RIMA
rijcbigscape@gmail.com
Phone: 401 742 2560