



April 11, 2024

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The Honorable Senator Dibble
Senate Transportation Finance and Policy Committee
3107 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue W.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Craig Ryan, Director,
Government Relations
The Auto Club Group

RE: S.F. 5174 – Motorcycle Lane-Splitting

Dear Chairman Dibble:

On behalf of AAA-The Auto Club Group, with more than 630,000 AAA members in Minnesota, I am writing to express AAA's opposition to S.F. 5174, which would permit motorcycles to operate abreast of, overtake, or pass another vehicle within the same traffic lane or between two parallel lanes of moving or stationary traffic with certain speed requirements.

We ask that you keep in mind:

- In 2020, [only 7%](#) of motorcycles involved in two-vehicle crashes were struck from the rear, according to the National Highway Transportation Administration (NHTSA).
- One of the greatest risks to motorcyclists is driver expectation – other drivers in moving traffic may not expect to be passed on the right by a motorcycle, which could result in side-swipe and turn-into-path collisions.
- Previous [AAA research](#) found that motorcycles were detected by blind-spot monitoring systems 26 percent later than passenger vehicles.
- Speed dispersion or differential is an important factor in determining crash risk, as larger differences in speed between vehicles are related to higher crash rates.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Craig Ryan