

Arizona lane-filtering basics

New law takes effect in late September 2022

Senate Bill 1273, championed by ABATE of Arizona, approved with strong bipartisan support and signed into law, legalizes lane filtering in Arizona, putting the state in the company of Utah and Montana. "This is all about safety and nothing more than part of the plan to reduce motorcycle fatalities in Arizona," said Michael Infanzon, legislative director for ABATE of Arizona, which championed the bill. According to the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) most recent data, 30 percent of all motorcycle crashes in 2020, including 11 out of 106 fatal motorcycle collisions, were the result of rear-end collisions.

The law goes into effect September 24, 90 days after legislative adjournment on June 22, 2022. ABATE of Arizona and the Arizona Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Foundation (AMSAF) are working with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and the Department of Public Safety to educate riders and the public on the new legislation, including via PSAs and TV spots.

AMSAF is emphasizing the following key points motorcyclists must know:

- **NO FREEWAYS:** This is not the California lane splitting law. The Arizona law only allows lane filtering on surface streets with a speed limit of 45 mph or slower.
- **NOT EVERY STREET:** The law applies only on

streets that have two or more lanes in the same direction.

- **NOT MOVING:** You may not pass a vehicle in motion. You may only overtake, between lanes, a vehicle that is stopped.
- **SLOW SPEED:** The maximum speed for a motorcycle traveling between lanes is 15 mph.
- **ONLY WHEN SAFE:** Riders must recognize that they can move between lanes safely before beginning lane filtering.
- **TWO-WHEELED ONLY:** Lane filtering is for two-wheeled motorcycles—no trike or sidecar riders.

AMSAF, a 501c(3) non-profit organization, works with the State of Arizona, business partners and sponsors including local businesses, health-care, police departments, insurance, legal and other prominent entities and individuals, to help decrease the number of distracted and DUI-impaired drivers and to provide scholarships, statewide, to train motorcyclists how to ride more defensively. Our overall mission is safety awareness to reduce the phenomenal number of crashes and fatalities on our roadways.

For information on AMSAF, visit amsaf.org.

For information on ABATE, visit abateofaz.org.

For information on AMA, visit americanmotorcyclist.com. ■

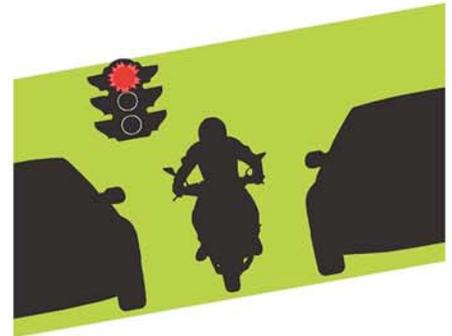


Photo: AMSAF

