

June 23, 2015



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To: The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
The Honorable Anthony Cannella, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Transportation & Housing Committee

From: Rex D. Frazier, President
Michael A. Gunning, Vice President
Kara Cross, General Counsel
Manolo P. Morales, Legislative Advocate

Re: AB 51 (Quirk) Vehicles: Motorcycles: Lane Splitting
As Amended May 22, 2015

Senate Transportation & Housing Committee Hearing-July 14, 2015

PIFC Position: Support

The Personal Insurance Federation of California, representing seven of the nation's largest insurance companies (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Allstate, Mercury and Nationwide) who collectively write a majority of the personal line auto and home insurance in California, **supports AB 51, Vehicles: Motorcycles: Lane Splitting by Assemblymember Quirk.**

California law is silent on lane splitting. Since current law does not explicitly prohibit it, lane splitting is legal. Though it's a legal practice, there are no guidelines or safety standards to guide drivers on how to safely maneuver motorcycles when lane splitting. AB 51 establishes a set of guidelines under which lane splitting can be done. These are nearly identical to the guidelines previously offered by the California Highway Patrol.

PIFC and its member companies have a long standing record of supporting sound safety measures that serve to reduce injuries and enhance public road safety. AB 51 is a proper step to help keep our roads safer and motorcycle riders and other motorists better educated.

PIFC supports AB 51 Vehicles: Motorcycles: Lane Splitting by Assemblymember Quirk and urges your "aye" vote. If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Michael A. Gunning at (916) 442-6646.

cc: Assemblymember Bill Quirk, Author
Erin Riches, Principal Consultant, Sen. Transportation & Housing Committee
Ted Morley, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Camille Wagner, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor
Robert Herrell, Legislative Director, California Department of Insurance