

Lane Filtering in Arizona is Coming Soon

BUT it ISN'T here YET! If you Lane Filter at this time, you CAN get a ticket! ABATE-AZ will announce when Lane Filtering becomes legal! Follow [ABATE-AZ on facebook](#) and read the [ABATE-AZ MasterLink newsletter](#) for all your State Motorcyclists Rights Organization {SMRO} news.

For now, we're gonna review what ABATE-AZ's Legislative Director Mike Infanzon has been explaining about Lane Filtering in Arizona...

May 2022 Legislative Update
 ABATE-AZ MasterLink:

Expect to see motorcycles lane filtering soon, it will be legal under certain circumstances.

Lane Filtering is NOT the same as Lane Splitting.
 Legal for roads with 45 mph or less speed limit;
 NOT LEGAL on ANY Freeways.

ARIZONA – As the weather continues to get warmer, Arizonans can expect to see more motorcycles on the road — and more motorcycles means lane filtering will be legal soon.

ABATE of Arizona wants to remind drivers they can expect to see motorcycles lane filtering this fall, as well as remind motorcyclists of the conditions under which lane filtering is legal.

What is Lane filtering?

Lane filtering is when motorcyclists move between two lanes to the front of traffic that is stopped at an intersection.

Motorcycle lane filtering was made legal under certain circumstances in Arizona but it doesn't go into effect just yet.

Officials say the law for lane filtering was designed to prevent or reduce rear-end collisions between approaching vehicles and motorcycles stopped in traffic.

They added, unlike lane “splitting,” lane “filtering” is intended to provide a “safety pocket” for motorcycles when encountering stopped traffic.

Since we have so many snowbirds in Arizona, some drivers may be surprised when they see motorcyclists who are lane filtering.

Officials emphasized that lane filtering between stopped vehicles on roadways with at least two lanes in the same direction and speeds of 45 mph and lower is legal in Arizona.

Having a motorcycle pass closely to your stopped vehicle can be startling. However, officials say if you're aware that lane filtering is legal and know to expect it, you can maintain an awareness of your surroundings and reduce the element of surprise.

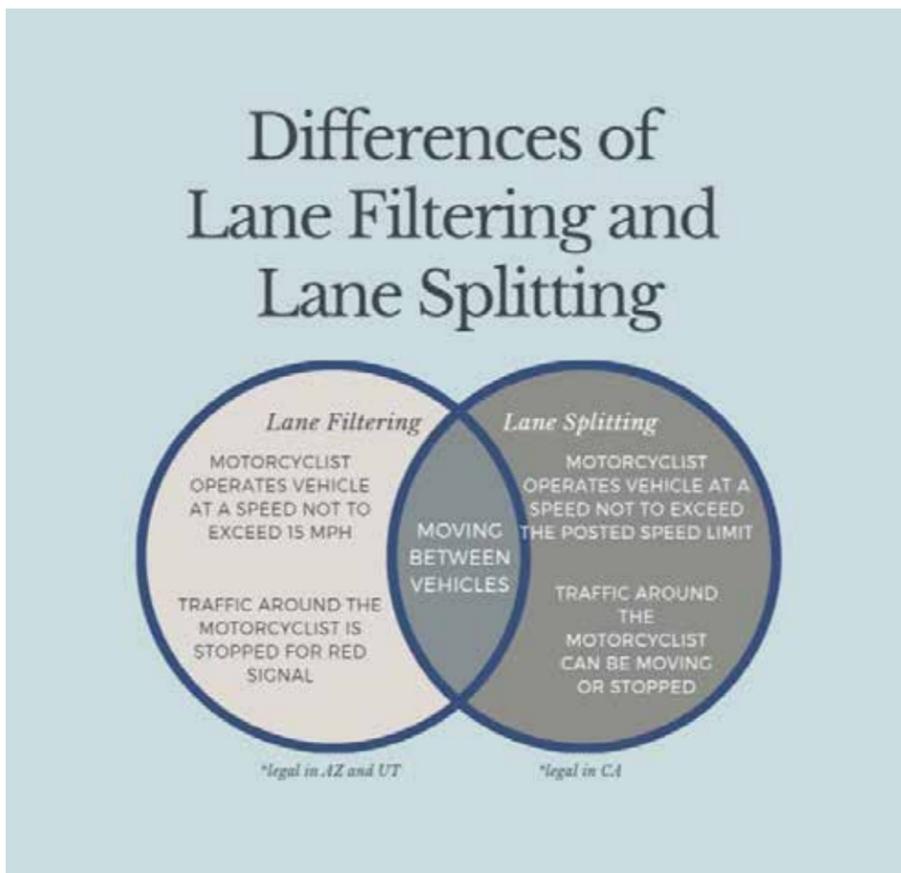
When the law goes into effect, motorcycles will be able to lane filter in Arizona when the following conditions are met, according to officials:

- The movement MUST be made safely ;
- The individual is on a roadway divided into two or more adjacent traffic lanes in the same direction of travel ;
- The individual is on a roadway with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less; *this means it is never legal on the freeways ;*
- The vehicle being overtaken in the same lane is stopped ;
- The motorcycle is traveling at a speed of 15 miles per hour or less.

Mike Infanzon
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There is information available on what Lane Filtering IS and what is ISN'T. These are important distinctions that EVERY motorcycle pilot needs to know... To be SAFE and to avoid a ticket.

ALSO ... This information NEEDS to be shared with your NON-riding friends & family members who will be in their cars & trucks... to help reduce the surprise that some cagers may experience when they see a motorcycle rolling past them in stopped traffic.



Lane Filtering in Arizona

Arizona's new lane filtering law (SB1273) allows a motorcycle to travel between lanes of traffic in very specific instances:

Here are some things you, as a motorcyclist, need to 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**
 Only on streets that have 2 or more lanes in the same direction.
- **NOT MOVING**
 You may not pass a vehicle in motion. You may only overtake a vehicle between lanes that is stopped.
- **NO SPEEDING**
 The maximum speed for a motorcycle traveling between lanes is 15 MPH.

And (you'll want to do this anyway) you must recognize that you can move between lanes safely before beginning lane filtering.

Here's a couple more things you should know:

This law is for 2-wheeled motorcycles. Sorry Trike, Spyder, Slingshot and Ural sidecar riders.

Make sure you tell all your non-motorcyclist friends and neighbors about the law and what to expect. It will help keep them and every motorcyclist safe.

THIS LAW DOES NOT GO INTO EFFECT UNTIL 90 DAYS AFTER THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS. The current session is scheduled to end on May 13. But very often sessions are extended. That earliest the law will become effective is ~~August 13~~ **August 13** of this year.

NOTE: It will NOT be legal yet in August!