

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1684

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2008 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ALISON LITTELL MCHOSE**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Assemblyman GARY R. CHIUSANO**

**District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Schaer, Assemblywoman Cruz-Perez and Assemblyman Giblin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes Lane Splitting Task Force.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT establishing a Lane Splitting Task Force.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
4 *of New Jersey:*

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6 1. There is established a Lane Splitting Task Force. The task  
7 force shall consist of five members, to be appointed as follows:

8 a. Two members by the Governor, as follows:

9 (1) A representative from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation; and

10 (2) A representative from Rider Education of New Jersey; and

11 b. The Commissioner of Transportation or his designee;

12 c. The Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission or  
13 his designee; and

14 d. The Superintendent of State Police or his designee.

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16 2. The public members shall be appointed within three months  
17 of enactment and shall, to the greatest extent practicable, have, by  
18 education or experience, knowledge of lane splitting initiatives in  
19 other states or countries, and the effects they have had on road  
20 congestion and traffic safety. Any vacancy in the public  
21 membership of the task force shall be filled by appointment in the  
22 same manner as the original appointment was made.

23 The task force shall organize as soon as possible after the  
24 appointments of its members. The Commissioner of Transportation,  
25 or his designee, shall serve as the chair of the task force and shall  
26 appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the task force.  
27 The members shall select a vice chair from among them.

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29 3. The task force shall focus on lane splitting, which is the  
30 allowing of motorcycles to ride between lanes of motor vehicle  
31 traffic during times of congestion, and shall examine the advantages  
32 and drawbacks of instituting such an initiative in New Jersey. In  
33 conducting its inquiry, the task force shall study lane splitting  
34 initiatives which have been adopted or considered in other states  
35 and countries and determine their effect on road congestion and  
36 traffic safety. The task force shall compare these various initiatives  
37 and establish an opinion on which components of the policies would  
38 provide the most benefit with the safest implementation if lane  
39 splitting were adopted in New Jersey.

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41 4. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance and  
42 shall avail itself of the services of the employees of any State,  
43 county, or municipal department, board, bureau, commission or  
44 agency as it may require and as may be available to it for its  
45 purposes. The task force shall further be entitled to employ counsel  
46 and stenographic and clerical assistance and incur traveling and  
47 other miscellaneous expenses as it may deem necessary to perform

1 its duties, within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made  
2 available for its purposes.

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4 5. The task force may conduct public hearings in furtherance of  
5 its general purposes at such place or places as it shall designate, at  
6 which it may request the appearance of officials of any federal,  
7 State, or interstate department, board, bureau, commission, agency,  
8 or authority and solicit the testimony or interested groups and the  
9 general public.

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11 6. The task force shall report its progress to the Governor and  
12 Legislature annually, with the first report no later than 12 months  
13 after its organization, and shall issue a final proposal to the  
14 Governor and Legislature no later than three years after its  
15 organization. The final proposal shall outline the findings of the  
16 task force, including, but not limited to:

17 a. The advantages and drawbacks of lane splitting, in general;

18 b. Guidelines outlining specific components that a lane splitting  
19 initiative should include, if one were to be adopted in New Jersey,  
20 to ensure the most successful and safest implementation possible;  
21 and

22 c. A recommendation as to whether New Jersey should adopt a  
23 lane splitting initiative, taking into account the State's highway  
24 system, congestion, and unique attributes and traffic patterns.

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26 7. The members of the task force shall serve without  
27 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses  
28 incurred in the performance of their duties. Any reimbursement of  
29 members shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to  
30 otherwise made available to the task force for its purposes.

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32 8. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire upon  
33 the filing of the task force's final proposal to the Governor and  
34 Legislature in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of this  
35 act.

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#### STATEMENT

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40 This bill would establish a Lane Splitting Task Force to focus on  
41 the policy of allowing motorcycles to ride between lanes of motor  
42 vehicle traffic during times of congestion, and to examine the  
43 advantages and drawbacks of instituting such an initiative in New  
44 Jersey. The task force would consist of five members, including:

- 45 • A representative from the Motorcycle Safety Foundation;
- 46 • A representative from Rider Education of New Jersey;
- 47 • The Commissioner of Transportation;

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- 1       • The Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission;  
2       and  
3       • The Superintendent of State Police.

4       In conducting its inquiry, the task force would be charged with  
5       studying lane splitting initiatives which have been adopted or  
6       considered in other states and countries and determining their effect  
7       on road congestion and traffic safety. The task force would  
8       compare these various initiatives and establish an opinion on which  
9       components would provide the most benefit with the safest  
10      implementation, if lane splitting were adopted in New Jersey.

11      The bill requires the task force to report its progress to the  
12      Governor and Legislature annually, and to issue a final proposal  
13      within three years.