

Legislative Priorities 2026

The results are in, and by a large margin, weight fees are at the top of the list, followed by congestion relief, either via shoulder riding or lane splitting/sharing.

Our weight fee bill ([SB 5309](#)), being carried by Sen. Cortes (D-18) with Sen. MacEwen (R-35) as second seat, is already under discussion and on the radar. Since our weight fees remained unchanged, we will (hopefully) not have preloaded push back. I have already spoken briefly with Sen. Lias (D-21) (Chair Senate Transportation) and have passed him, Sen. Cortes (D-18), and staff some possible language to adjust the bill to meld with the new section of the RCW covering weight fees. I have meetings with Sen. Cortes on 3 December and Sen. Lias on 5 December. I am still working on setting up a meeting with Rep. Fey (D-27) (Chair, House Transportation) for early December, but there is nothing scheduled yet. If I have nothing by 1 December, I will try to get an impromptu conversation in early December when the Joint Transportation Committee is in town.

With Black Friday just around the corner, it is not too soon to reach out to your two State Representatives and your State Senator. In the unlikely event that you do not know your district, go to <https://leg.wa.gov/legislators/>. To get the contact information for your Senator or Representatives, go to <https://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/Members>. Here is some sample language to include in your meeting request.

“Sen/Rep Phramitz,

January 30th 2026 is the annual ABATE of WA “Black Friday” motorcycle lobby day in Olympia. I (or My group and I) would appreciate some time on your calendar to discuss our issues. We are looking at congestion relief in the form of lane filtering and/or shoulder riding, but our primary focus is to reduce weight fees on motorcycles to a level more commensurate with the weight of our motorcycles. There exists a bill ([SB 5309](#)) that is currently in Senate Transportation, and we would like to see the measure move forward.

Thank you for your time.”

Feel free to tailor the language to your own style.

Also, if your reps or senator have no time on Black Friday, there are always the options to brief staff or possibly walk the member to committee. The walking to committee option shows a level of advocacy expertise that the members appreciate.

The other option is to set up a video meeting for another day, preferably earlier than the 30th, that will work for all personnel. I am always open to being looped in if you wish, subject to my schedule. I can also do follow up work for you if needed.

Next month, we will be putting out talking points for you to work from so that we can keep a unified message.

Until next time, ride safely and legislate well.

“Texas” Larry