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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4013

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Mielke, Thompson, Dunn and Honeyford

Read first time 02/17/97. Referred to Committee on Transportation Policy & Budget.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GARY LOCKE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON,  
2 AND TO THE HONORABLE ANNETTE SANDBERG, CHIEF OF THE WASHINGTON STATE  
3 PATROL:

4 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
5 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
6 represent and petition as follows:

7 WHEREAS, Traffic congestion is a great concern to the citizens of  
8 this state; and

9 WHEREAS, It is of great concern to the citizens of the state of  
10 Washington, and to their elected representatives in the state  
11 legislature, that the laws regarding proper use of multilane roadways  
12 be enforced; and

13 WHEREAS, The legislature finds it a common occurrence for  
14 automobiles to drive continuously in the left lane of multilane  
15 roadways, thus impeding the flow of traffic; and

16 WHEREAS, RCW 46.61.100(3) clearly provides that "It is a traffic  
17 infraction to drive continuously in the left lane of a multilane  
18 roadway when it impedes the flow of other traffic"; and

19 WHEREAS, RCW 46.61.100(3) was enacted by the legislature in 1986 to  
20 address the problem of vehicles being driven in the left lane and  
21 thereby impeding traffic; and

1       WHEREAS, It was the intent of the legislature, at that time, that  
2 the left-hand lane on any state highway with two or more lanes in the  
3 same direction be used primarily as a passing lane; and

4       WHEREAS, The legislature desires that RCW 46.61.100(3) be more  
5 regularly and consistently enforced, in order to enhance the flow of  
6 traffic;

7       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
8 Washington State Patrol take appropriate action, vigorously enforcing  
9 RCW 46.61.100(3), and citing those motorists who drive continuously in  
10 the left lane of multilane roadways and impede the flow of other  
11 traffic.

12       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
13 transmitted to the Honorable Gary Locke, Governor of the state of  
14 Washington, and to the Honorable Annette Sandberg, Chief of the  
15 Washington State Patrol.

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