



February 13, 2019

Co-Chair Lee Beyer  
Co-Chair Representative Caddy McKeown  
Co-Vice Chairs Senator Brian Boquist & Representative Ron Noble  
Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation

RE: Support for HB 2671

Dear Co Chairman Beyer & Mckeown and Members of the Committe,

Forth is a non-profit trade association that advocates for the advancement of electric, smart, connected, and autonomous mobility. Forth supports these initiatives through demonstration pilot projects, public outreach and education, industry networking and legislative and regulatory advocacy across the nation. Forth has over 160 members representing auto manufacturers, electric vehicle charging suppliers, industry partners, utilities, local governments, non-profits, mobility and micro mobility providers, and many additional stakeholders within the transportation electrification "ecosystem." Forth also operates the nation's first brand-neutral electric mobility showcase.

Last summer, the City of Portland created a successful electric scooter (e-scooter) pilot program and recently announced a second pilot program to take place in the Spring of 2019. Given the success of the first pilot, Forth is recommending they continue the pilot permanently or, at a minimum, until July 2020, after the Worldwide Electric Vehicle Symposium comes to Portland (June 2020).

As you are aware, Oregon needs to accelerate the move to a clean transportation system. Electric scooters produce zero air pollution, are affordable and equitable, and provide one of several first and last-mile solutions between home, work, and public transit.

HB 2671 would require e-scooter riders under the age of 16 years-of-age to wear a helmet, similar to the helmet requirements for bicycle riders who are under 16 years-of-age today. HB 2671 would end the confusion between e-scooters and bicycles and harmonize helmet laws between these two technologies as both forms of transportation continue to fill the needs of first and last mile transit for so many.

Forth appreciates the opportunity to support HB 2671 and encourages the members of the Joint Committee on Transportation to support HB 2671.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanette Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J'.

Jeanette Shaw  
Director, Government Relations  
Forth