

I write in support of the Senate Bill.

As a bicycle commuter, I believe it's wrong to treat cyclists the same as cars, and here's why:

Bikes have a much slower time to regain momentum at a stop sign. This results in more danger from behind, where cars can misjudge our speed and hit us. Conversely, when on my bike, I have a full view of an intersection, and I will slow down to ascertain the safety of continuing, and then regain my speed to keep the flow of traffic going. Nearly all cyclists already do this, because it's by far the safest way to navigate a stop sign. What this bill does is codify that concept, and remove uncertainty among drivers and cyclists, which makes it safer for everyone.

The law does NOT make it legal to blow through a stop sign or endanger pedestrians. But what it does do is make it more likely I'll get home in one piece as I do my part to reduce Portland traffic.

Thank you,
Alex Bogartz