

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to Bill 998; which "Permits person operating bicycle to enter intersection controlled by specified traffic control devices without stopping."

I think it is time for us all to recognize how dangerous our streets have become. There are less and less attentive drivers every day. Cyclists are the one group of road users who are the most vulnerable to all of this.

Having to stop at intersections and wait on distracted drivers only makes things worse. Being able to see your surroundings and make quick decisions is what biking is all about. As a cyclist, I want to be able to move through, and past, traffic as quickly as possible, and not wait for people to accidentally drive over me.

As a pedestrian, walking around downtown, I'm put in danger by cars rolling stop signs and red lights daily. A bicycle weighs ~30 pounds. Most cars weigh several thousand+ pounds. Who would you want to be hit by? Who would you rather have just roll right around you? Who should REALLY have to stop and check for traffic? I can tell you that I'd take streets full of bikes and scooters over streets full of SUVs and pickups ANY DAY.

Please vote yes on this bill and help make cycling easier and more efficient for the most vulnerable road users.

Regards,

Eric Porter

Portland, Oregon