

MARTY WILDE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 11



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 24th, 2019

Chair Holvey and members of the House Committee on Rules,

I am writing in support of SB 998. The Idaho study submitted by Sen. Prozanski in the meeting materials show that mandatory stop laws for bicyclist do not result increased safety. In fact, it concludes that relaxed stopping laws may result in fewer collisions. After Idaho changed the law allowing bicyclist to treat stop signs as yield signs there was a 14.5% decrease in injuries.

The open and unprotected nature of a bicycles makes them very different from a car and they should not be treated the same. On a bicycle you have a greater awareness of your surroundings through increased hearing and visibility. This gives a cyclist a greater level discernment of when is the safest time to cross.

Having to stop at every stop sign wastes time, energy, and increases the risk of injury. This ultimately discourages bicycling. As we work to transition away from fossil fuels we should pass laws that promote carbon free forms of transportation like bicycling.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Wilde". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "W".

Marty Wilde, State Representative, District 11

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