

Submitter: Mike Vergeer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB3014
Date: February 20, 2023
To: House Committee on Education
From: Mike Vergeer, Streets For Everyone
Re: Support for Flexible School Transportation Funding, HB 3014

Hello Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Zach Hudson and Boomer Wright, and members of the committee:

My name is Mike Vergeer, and I live in Ashland. I'm a volunteer bike/ped advocate with Streets For Everyone, I'm a parent of two elementary school students, and I'm a transportation planning professional with the Rogue Valley Transportation District.

I write today in fervent support of HB 3014, as it will help many families choose to walk or bike to school.

A student who walks or bikes is more ready and eager to learn, and more likely to retain what they learn. This is well documented in many empirical studies.

A student who walks or bikes is learning how to move around the world independently—a valuable life lesson.

A student who walks or bikes is forgoing greenhouse gas emissions.

I urge your support for HB 3014.

Thanks for your attention.

—Mike Vergeer