

Submitter: Harold DeShow
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3626

Good afternoon co-chairs Gorsek & McClain, and members of the committee. My name is Hal DeShow, I live in Bend, I'm a bike commuter, a teacher and a father. I'm here because I want my child to grow up with the freedom to transport herself around town on safe eBikes.

Here in Bend, traffic congestion has grown intolerable as the number of cars rises every year. When I speak to friends who want to get around town on bikes and reduce the congestion, the #1 reason they don't is because they have to transport their kids to school, activities, or even work. This is a new problem; when I was a teenager, my parents didn't drive me all around town. I took the bus or I biked myself.

I want the kids in my town to be able to take responsibility for their own transportation, and earn the freedom that comes with it. I want to see our air quality improve and our traffic congestion ease as parents stop driving their teenagers everywhere. I want to see kids on bikes, and eBikes that max out at 20 mph are a safe part of that vision.

Thank you,
Hal DeShow