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April 11, 2017

Chair Caddy McKeown  
House Committee on Transportation Policy  
State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 3230 – Safe Routes to School

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Dear Chair McKeown and Committee Members:

1000 Friends of Oregon supports HB 3230. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that works with Oregonians to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

Being able to walk safely to school is a key element of livability in all communities, of any size. HB 3230 demonstrates Oregon's commitment to its children and neighborhoods by dedicating \$16 million annually to Safe Routes to School. Of this, \$10 million would go to building sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and transit improvements within a one-mile radius of schools. This funding would come from the state highway funds. Six million would go to safety education programs aimed at children and their families. We recommend this be funded from federal Transportation Alternative Program funds.

A comprehensive Safe Routes to Schools program, including both physical safety improvements and education, is the most effective way to quickly increase the number of kids walking and biking to school, and therefore receiving healthy benefits and instilling life long healthy habits.

Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy  
Deputy Director