

Hello,

I testified yesterday in support of HB 2017-3 and pleaded for some amendments. Here I am submitting the written form of my testimony. Thank you for the opportunity to testify after a long day of riding my bike to Salem!

I am passionate about SRTS Education programs. I am here to ask you to fully fund SRTS Education programs for every student in our great state of Oregon!

I am here to ask you to fund In School SRTS Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education programs with \$6M per year. Please remove the ten-year sunset on the program. SRTS needs to continue beyond 10 years! Expand the street safety funding to \$15M per year, prioritize Title 1 schools for street safety projects, create flexibility in local funding match requirements for Title 1 schools, and expand the radius for eligible projects around schools to 1 mile.

These are critical amendments to the bills to ensure the bill does not fall short of the mark for service the youth in our state!

I have 8 years of experience in teaching students Pedestrian Safety Education skills, skills to safely cross streets in their neighborhood. These students learn a lot in these programs.

A parent shared with me how his student, after having Pedestrian Safety Education, stopped both his parents and instructed them on how to cross the street safely! That student listened, learned and practiced his new skills to stay safe crossing the street AND made sure his parents were following the rules for safe crossing. He got it!

Bike Safety Education students that have been through the program can recite the Rules of Right of Way for determining who's turn it is to proceed at an intersection. That is more street law knowledge than most drivers possess. Many drivers do not know and do not properly follow the rules of right of way when at an intersection. When becoming new drivers these graduates of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education program will no doubt understand the laws of the road and what it feels like to be a vulnerable road user at a much deeper level than other new drivers. These students will become MUCH better drivers because of their education and experience with laws and rules of the road.

Right now less than one half of Portland area students get Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education. It is time to make sure that ALL students in the state of Oregon get this important LIFE SKILL EDUCATION!

These education programs (including the existing drivers education programs) provide a progressive transportation education instruction at approximate ages 7, 9, 15 as compared with

the current model of just drivers education at age 15. Students with three points of age appropriate transportation education will be more responsible road using adults!

Please expand the street safety funding to \$15M per year, include in school education funding at \$6M per year, remove the 10 years sunset and allow the program to continue, prioritize Title 1 schools, create flexibility in local funding match requirements to Title 1 schools, and expand the radius for eligible projects around school to 1 mile.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify yesterday.

Sincerely,

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"You can authentically choose what's right for you." - quote from a student of LaShelle Chard during a workshop on Compassionate Communication