

DATE: February 13, 2017

TO: House Committee on Transportation Policy

FROM: Laughton Elliott-DeAngelis

SUBJECT: HB 2667, Establishes Task Force on Vision Zero: Achieving Zero Traffic Crashes, Injuries and Fatalities

Dear Chair Rep. Caddy McKeown and members of the committee:

As Safe Routes to School Coordinator in Springfield, Oregon, I am immersed in traffic incident and fatality data more than most individuals. I'm deeply saddened knowing that many of these deaths were the result of poor infrastructure or a lack of interventions (e.g. flashing beacons). I would like to see a task force established for Vision Zero, so that these conflict zones can be identified and improved upon. I believe that a single serious accident or fatality is unacceptable, and I hope that, at the state-level, we can work to get these numbers down to Zero.

As roads become safer, the fear culture that discourages parents from allowing their children to walk and bike to school will shift. Consequently, students will increasingly experience the benefits of walking/biking to school (e.g. active lifestyle, lower traffic congestion, higher air quality around schools).

Thank you for helping make this Vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Laughton Elliott-DeAngelis

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Thank you.
Springfield Public Schools