

Honorable Oregon House members and Chairman Rep. Paul Holvey,

I'm writing in support of Senate Bill 998 which would allow bicyclists to treat stop signs as yield signs.

I'm 72 years old with 55 years experience riding bicycles - 45 years as a primary means of transportation in town. Around fifteen years ago when a similar bill was in front of the Oregon Legislature I had some concerns about how it would play out on the streets of Eugene. During the time since then I've been able to think about it and observe my own experience and behavior and that of others in regards to bicycling and stop signs.

I have wholeheartedly concluded that it is safe, practical and reasonable on my bicycle to slow to a stop sign and if there are no other vehicles present then to roll through. When there are other vehicles already at intersection or approaching at the same time then it is safe, practical and reasonable to stop and yield to those with the right-of-way. I do this now hundreds of times each year.

I have read on occasion about the history of a similar law in Idaho and understand that the yield at stops signs for bicyclists there has worked out very well.

Please vote to move Senate Bill 998 out of committee to allow for a vote of the full house.

Best regards,

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