

Dear Oregon State Senators,

I'm writing to urge you to vote "yes" on Senate Bill 998 on the Idaho Stop for bicyclists at stop signs. Not only does this improve bicycle safety and efficiency, it also means cars will spend much less time waiting on bicycles at 4-way stops.

As a bicyclist, most of the time I approach a 4-way stop when cars are also present, drivers wave me through the intersection, but I am still legally obligated to stop, which means that it takes me quite some time to get through the intersection. It's annoying for me. It's annoying to the driver who waved me through ahead of them. It's annoying for anyone else using the intersection.

Even though I know drivers always like to complain about cyclists, it's a fact that bicycles make our roads safer for all users. We also desperately need to curb our fossil fuel consumption and this is one small measure that makes sustainable transportation a viable alternative for more people, for more trips, but allowing us to get to more destinations in a safer and more timely fashion.

Thank you,
Mary Peter Middendorf