

March 17th, 2025

Re: Support for HB3626

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

On behalf of Oregon Walks, a pedestrian advocacy organization dedicated to promoting walking and advocating for safe, convenient, and attractive walking conditions, I write in support of House Bill 3626. This bill would provide clarification on the rules and regulations governing e-micromobility modes, such as e-scooters and e-bikes, ensuring they can be safely integrated into Oregon's transportation network. While Oregon Walks' primary focus is on those who move by foot, we recognize that increasing access to low- and no-carbon transportation options—such as the many e-micromobility options available to consumers—complements our mission to create healthier, more sustainable communities.

House Bill 3626 will help establish clear, consistent guidelines for the operation of e-micromobility devices, reducing confusion among users, pedestrians, law enforcement, and other road users. Proper regulation not only improves safety but also encourages responsible use of these transportation modes, minimizing conflicts on sidewalks and shared paths. By making these rules clearer, we can ensure that all road users—including those walking—benefit from safer and more predictable interactions. Thoughtful regulation of e-micromobility will support a transportation ecosystem that reduces car dependency, cuts emissions, and makes active transportation more appealing and accessible to all.

We urge the committee to pass HB 3626 to help Oregon continue advancing a multimodal, sustainable, and safe transportation future. Oregon Walks looks forward to collaborating with legislators, community partners, and transportation advocates to ensure that pedestrians and micromobility users alike can move safely and efficiently throughout their communities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zachary Lauritzen Executive Director

Oregon Walks