

Testimony to the Joint Committee on Transportation re: HB 3626

March 17, 2025

Kristopher Fortin Grijalva, Transportation Program Director Oregon Environmental Council

Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance equitable, innovative, and collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Re: Oregon Environmental Council support for HB 3626

Dear Co-chairs Gorsek and McLain, Vice chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our thousands of members statewide, I am writing today to strongly support HB 3626. This bill establishes clear and enforceable rules for e-bikes, scooters, and other micromobility devices — ensuring safe riding, consistent enforcement, and education for all road users.

Transportation accounts for roughly 35 percent of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions. One of the key strategies for Oregon to hit these targets is to reduce the miles traveled by gas powered vehicles, and a core component of this strategy are micromobility devices.

As adoption of micromobility devices continues, creating a fair regulation environment will help keep this momentum going. HB 3626 directs the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to educate Oregonians about micromobility laws and best practices. Increased awareness will help drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians safely share streets and pathways, reducing conflicts and improving road safety statewide.

This bill also helps law enforcement and transportation agencies focus on the real safety threats. Instead of targeting responsible e-bike riders, HB 3626 ensures that enforcement efforts go toward stopping motorcycles, mopeds, and illegally modified high-speed vehicles from misusing bike lanes and shared pathways.

Sincerely,

Kristopher Fortin Grijalva Transportation Program Director **Oregon Environmental Council** kristopherf@oeconline.org