

February 4, 2026

Re: HB 4007 'Safe Rides' Bill

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for taking up this important piece of legislation. I support the creation of clear standards for bikes, scooters, and micro-mobility devices.

I support increased independent mobility for young riders. But the speed limits and helmet requirements you propose would keep them safer. I have frequently seen individuals riding these devices that sometimes travel at the speed of an automobile. They are often riding too fast and lack necessary judgment and bike handling skills thus putting pedestrians, cyclists and themselves at risk. I've also seen individuals riding these devices on the grass at public parks and open spaces where they tear up the grass, leaving a muddy mess behind where other park users can no longer picnic, etc. Other reckless individuals ride at high speeds on the sidewalks when they should be on the street.

We have rigorous training and age requirements for those individuals wanting to drive a car. Why not these devices? Speed limits and helmet wearing seem logical given the pre-frontal cortex (decision making, risk taking) is not fully developed until age 25.

As an older, long-time cyclist, I feel vulnerable riding with devices that are riding twice or sometimes 3 times my speed, often by individuals who lack judgment and make it unsafe for others to use multi-use trails like the Springwater Corridor Trail and the Trolley Trail intended for pedestrians and cyclists at much slower speeds.

Thank you,

Amy Blumenberg