Zachary Barowitz Portland LD 527

Honorable Members:

I am happy to write in support of LD 527 as I believe it is a critical step in making our State's roads safer as well as better able to achieve goals in sustainability, public health, and even economic development.

The one recommendation I would make is to remove the vehicle count. Not only is the proposed count low and thus restrictive, it seems a rather blunt instrument insofar as it does not take into account local contexts, time of day/seasonal volumes, and a host of both qualitative and quantitative factors that such analysis deserves. Additionally, traffic counts are costly and time consuming.

We've had a number of bicycle and pedestrian deaths in our community lately and the numbers don't seem to be going down, so I thank you for considering this bill to make our communities safer.

Zack Barowitz