



more, better & safer bicycling

TO: Chair Shanley and members of the House State Government and Elections Committee

Bari Freem
Executive Direct

RE: Support for H7672

BOARD OF DIRECTO

Date: March 2, 2026

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Dear Chair Shanley and Honorable Members of the State Government and Elections Committee,

I'd like to begin by thanking Representatives Boylan, Fogarty, Casimiro, DeSimone, Read, Hull, Spears, Dawson, Felix, and Kislak for sponsoring Bill H7672 in consideration of the safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and all road users.

Along with other colleagues, I will attend the hearing to share perspective. I also respectfully submit these observations in writing for your consideration:

1) Observation: The bill states that the stop signs will require "operators of motor vehicles to come to a complete stop ...". However, the Explanation by the Legislative Council less clearly refers to "the placement of a stop sign at any intersection of a roadway and bike path" without stating who the stop sign is for.

Recommendation: We recommend that the language states: "... the placement of a stop sign for motor vehicles at any intersection of a roadway and bike path."

2) Observation: Some of the intersections affected are already signaled by traffic lights, rapid flashing beacons, yield signs, or other traffic control measures.

Recommendation: We recommend specifically addressing the conditions under which a stop sign is required.

3) Observation: The language of the bill is "on all state highways."

Question: Is the intention "state highways," "state roads," or "all roads"?

4) Question: Following the fatal crash where the East Bay Bike Path crosses Poppasquash Road in Bristol in 2018, taking the life of 6-year-old Mason Sterne, RIDOT announced that it would be conducting an audit of all bike path crossings and signage. Was this study conducted? Where can we view the results?

On behalf of the board, staff, and participants of Bike Newport, thank you for your consideration, and always for your service,

Bari Freeman, Executive Director