

**From:** Abby Long

**Date:** 5/6/2025

**To:** The House Committee on Transportation

In Support of the Pouech Amendment to S.123

Dear House Transportation Committee members,

The Kingdom Trail Association encourages you to advance **stop-as-yield (Idaho Stop)**. We support this change for several reasons:

- **Safety:**
  - A [December 2024 report](#) from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that stop-as-yield laws were associated with reduced crash rates, particularly at suburban stop-controlled intersections. The study found no significant change in reckless behaviors following the enactment of stop-as-yield laws.
- **Benefitting Vermont's bike-friendly brand:**
  - As Vermont approaches a bicycle tourism season with significant uncertainty, we feel that continuing to update Vermont's laws protecting bicyclists and other vulnerable users will contribute to our state's brand as one that is supportive of people who experience Vermont by bike.
- **Aligning laws with actual behavior:**
  - Many people practice stop-as-yield now and will continue to do so because it is intuitive and enhances their safety. Animosity towards people biking can occur when other road users see people biking breaking the law. This animosity is rooted in the breaking of the law as opposed to the behavior itself. We believe that aligning law with actual behavior can therefore reduce animosity between road users—an imperative for an organization whose success is dependent on the relationship between trail users and other community members.

Thank you for your consideration and for your incredible service to Vermont!

Abby

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