Minnesota State Senate Transportation Committee Attn: Beth Ethier, Committee Administrator Minnesota Senate Building Room 1100 St. Paul, MN 55155

Date 3/6/24

Dear Senators,

Subject: Written testimony in support of SF 3993

My two daughters, Leah and Ella, both bike to and from their schools each day. Leah bikes to the Waseca Intermediate School and Ella bikes to Hartley Elementary School. Last year when Leah was riding her bike, an elderly person had ran into the back tire of her bike, causing her to fall off her bike. Thankfully, no one was hurt. Many times, people are in a hurry, and do not always see students on bikes. In the winter, it can be challenging when the sidewalks are not plowed yet, leaving the girls to have to ride on the road. But both girls are committed to riding the entire school year through rain, snow, wind, and all the elements. When the bike racks are removed for the winter, they find a tree or pole nearby to lean their bikes against.

Last year, Leah was the only one in her middle school, who was recognized and received an award for riding her bike to and from school the entire year! This raised her self-confidence and joy in her heart for how much she loves the outdoors and riding her bike. The time spent in peaceful thoughts while riding to, and from school is priceless! Many people in the community reach out and tell the girls how proud they are of them! Also, the girls role model and set great examples for other students to ride their bikes as well. We feel so blessed to live in a community that supports biking to school for our students. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted Krissy Wilson 1401 6th street NE, Waseca, MN 56093