

## Kess, Quinn

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**From:** Bob Woods <bob.woods@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2013 1:31 PM  
**To:** Kess, Quinn  
**Subject:** Public hearing on proposed Senate bill 103 regarding bicyclists

**Importance:** High

I am a 22-year resident of Madison, and for the last six years an avid road bicyclist. I am writing to strongly recommend against passage of the proposed Senate bill 103: "To require persons riding bicycles on a roadway to ride single file, rather than two abreast as currently allowed, in order to permit motorists to safely pass and yield three feet to the bicyclists as required by law."

While I ride alone or with a friend or two, I also am among many experienced cyclists who regularly ride in well-organized groups along the beautiful, and often narrow, roadways throughout south-central Connecticut. We try our best to responsibly share the road with motor vehicles. As is currently legal, we will ride two abreast, though when the alert "car back" is given, we routinely form a single file. We can understand some drivers' frustration when they can't readily pass us, yet we also recognize and defend our right to be on these roads--despite sometimes aggressive and vocal opinions to the contrary.

I believe that the apparent safety reasoning behind the bill is specious.

Being required to always ride single file is not only unreasonable but also unnecessary from my experience. If cyclists and motorists obey current laws and do our best to respect each other, there's no reason to change existing laws. Plus, the enjoyment of sharing time and chatter with fellow riders during this healthy exercise and sport would be considerably diminished if we couldn't legally ride alongside one another. (Not to mention that the Republican state senator who proposed the bill would seemingly be against more government intrusion in our lives.)

I hope you understand and appreciate how I and most other road cyclists feel about this proposed amendment, and that our elected officials will vote against it if and when it comes before the General Assembly.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bob Woods  
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