

To Transportation Committee Chairs Sen. Christine Cohen, Rep. Roland Lemar, and Distinguished Members

I am writing in support of HB5917 - [AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VISION ZERO COUNCIL.](#)

I am Chair of Bike Walk Farmington and was a member of the Vision Zero Education subcommittee.

Traffic violence is personal to me because as a League of American Bicyclist League Cycling Instructor, I educate motorists on how to safely share the roadways with vulnerable road users.

The Vision Zero bill will improve safety on our roads by requiring ongoing education for motorists. I am often shocked by the public's lack of knowledge when it comes to basic bike/ped laws and practices. Most people I speak with have never heard of the 3-Foot to Pass law as well as many others.

Connecticut needs automated enforcement for speeding and red lights because motorists need to be held more accountable when they are endangering the safety of others. To not use the technology we have available is like ignoring antreating an illness or disease

I believe Connecticut should skip the study on the Idaho Stop and No Turn on Red and pass those with this bill. These are both valuable tools because they provide another layer of protection to the vulnerable user.

Connecticut has lost \$102.5m in federal funds because of our antiquated open container laws. It is time to update our laws to reflect our priority on road safety for all users, in particular those who have lost their lives in wrong-way driving crashes. The Connecticut Department of Transportation says in about 80% of these cases, the driver is impaired by alcohol or other substances.

The federal Safe Streets for All Grant program is open to Connecticut's municipalities and Councils of Government. Without a Complete Streets Plan or a comprehensive safety plan in place, Connecticut's cities and towns cannot apply for federal funds to implement safety projects within the Safe Streets for All program. With the proposal in section 7 of #HB5971, Connecticut municipalities could also lose access to state funds without a plan.