



January 31, 2012

RE: Senate Resolution 1805

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SR 1805. I am Gina Poertner, owner and physiologist at Life Balance Sports & Wellness. I am also co-founder and Past President of KanBikeWalk, Inc. and currently serve on its Board of Directors. Many of you on this committee know that cycling, running, and helping others to live an active, healthy lifestyle is my passion, and I will continue to work with you on bringing safe and viable solutions to my fellow Kansans.

Supporting Livable Streets, also known as Complete Streets, is a critical element in fostering activities that contribute to the good health of our citizens. It is also critical in connecting our communities and enhancing safety for all roadway users throughout our state.

It is our responsibility as leaders to educate and enable our communities to implement roadway infrastructure that fosters active transportation. By maintaining our currently accessible "Complete Streets" areas and creating new ones as future road projects are planned, we provide:

- Enhanced safety features for our young people who are not of age to drive.
- Greater accessibility and a higher degree of independence to people of all ages who do not drive due to physical or mental limitations.
- Additional options to all Kansans, able-bodied and disabled, who choose to travel actively in their communities and across the state for work, shopping, school, and recreation.
- Increased economic benefit to areas conducive to various modes of travel.

I ask that you support and encourage your fellow Kansans to live healthy and to be safe on our roadways whether we drive, bike, trike, scoot, skate, roll, run, or walk by giving your favorable recommendation for SR 1805.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Poertner", written over a horizontal line.

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