



# CITY OF BILLINGS

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

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SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBIT NO.	2
DATE:	3-17-15
BILL NO.	HB 280 HB 394



P.O. Box 1554  
Billings, MT 59103

March 17, 2015

Senate Committee on Highway and Transportation  
Montana Legislature  
Helena, MT 59601

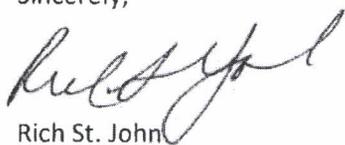
Subject: HB 280 and HB 394

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the two house bills referenced and encourage you to concur as well. Pedestrian and bicyclist safety has become a major issue for the Billings Police Department as we have seen an increase in accidents and near-misses. We have a significant number of motorists on the road and an increasing number of bicyclists. This legislation provides clear guidance for both vehicles and bicyclists on how to safely share the road. Additionally, the legislation provides a clear direction for law enforcement so we can ensure our efforts are consistent and meet our mission of ensuring the safety of our citizens.

Billings has worked very hard to establish a significant and dynamic program that encourages alternate transportation, specifically biking. Along with that, there have been educational programs and public service announcements encouraging awareness, courtesy, and safety. Support for these two bills will enhance these programs and help improve existing safety measures. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rich St. John  
Chief of Police