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Jan 23, 2005

Senator [name]
Room #xxx, xx Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Representative [name]
77 S. High St, xx Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111

Dear Senator:
Dear Representative:

A committee of experienced cyclists from the Ohio Bicycle Federation developed a package of reforms for portions of Ohio Traffic Laws pertaining to bicycles. These reforms will correct problems that are detrimental to safety on Ohio roadways. They will also make it easier for the motorists who share the road with cyclists because they promote lawful and predictable behavior. I urge you to sponsor and vigorously support these reforms in the Ohio Legislature.

Experienced cyclists, such as members of this committee, have an excellent safety record. Their accident rate is typically 75 to 80 percent lower than the average cycling accident rate. The reforms proposed in the enclosed booklet will make Ohio traffic laws much more consistent with safe and efficient bicycle operation. If you have questions or need more information, please contact me.

As an experienced bicycle commuter and a certified instructor, I offer to personally show you or members of your staff how an experienced cyclist operates according to best practices and how this differs from unsafe practices as encouraged by portions of current traffic law. Please contact me to arrange a ride in the Cleveland area. I think you will gain a personal benefit as well as better understanding the need for the reforms.

Fred B. Oswald

Enclosure: "Ohio Bicycle Law Reforms" booklet