

KENT R.I.C.C.

REGIONAL INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY COALITION

Judiciary Committee Clerk

Michigan State Senate

P.O. Box 30036

Lansing, MI 48909 – 7536

Dear Committee Clerk,

The officers and members of Kent RICC would like to thank you for sponsoring / initiating SB 1029 (the Vulnerable Roadway Users). Who are we? We are a grass roots self - advocacy group currently sponsored by the Michigan D.D. Council. We advocate on issues that are important to people with disabilities and their families. We believe that the current will help protect persons with disabilities as they use the public roadways in their communities. While we would not argue the cars dominate the road ways, drivers need to be aware that other citizens are using the roads as well. We appreciate that this legislation defines who a vulnerable road way user is and describes the mobility devises protected under this act. We also fully support the penalties of injuring a vulnerable road way user described in this bill.



KENT R.I.C.C.

REGIONAL INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY COALITION

Enclosed are copies of letters written by individual members or our group. Unfortunately, due the time and schedule constraints as well as affordable and accessible transportation we will not be able to attend the hearing during the week of September 6th. Hopefully you will find our letters both informative and supportive of this important legislation. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Don Polkowski

Don Polkowski - Chair

Tammy Yeomans

Tammy Yeomans – Public Policy Coordinator

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Tonya Schuitmaker - Vice Chair

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

I believe this is important because it protects people in wheelchairs crossing the street. My friend Christina Meyers uses a manual chair and this bill will help protect her when she is out in the community. This bill will help drivers pay attention to how they are driving.

Chad Bloss

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely, Mike Lynch
3534 Breton Valley SE
Kentwood, MI 49512

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Schuitmaker

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB 1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

I live near a very busy street - 28th Street
in Grand Rapids - and there are many people in my apartment
complex and nearby apartments who use wheelchairs and walkers
to get around the neighborhood to parks, to the store, and to the
bus. It's important to me that my neighbors and I are protected
from all of the car and truck traffic in the area

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,


2745 Birchcrest Dr. SE
Grand Rapids MI 49506

Senator *Tonya Schutmaker, Vice Chair, Committee of Judiciary*
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator *Schutmaker,*

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1009 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. This bill is important to me because of these reasons:

Would keep people safe on the streets
It will also make drivers aware about watching out for people with disabilities

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

LARRY C WILLIAMS
755 36th St SE
Grand Rapids MI 49501

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Vice
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Chair
~~Chair~~

Dear Senator

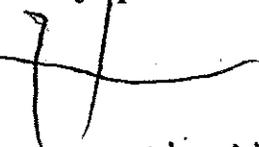
I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

We would like to have
more side walks cleaned during
the winter as well as the
cross walk lights stay on
longer as it is difficult
to get from one side to the
other in a wheelchair
fast enough.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,


9570 Whittall NE Rockford MI 49341

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Tonya Schuitmaker (vice chair)

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB 1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

We would like to have money spent on lengthening the cross walks to allow individuals in wheel chairs, walkers or anyone that has difficulty crossing enough time to cross safely. There is a bill passed to prosecute someone who hits individuals w/ a disability - be a felony.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Vaughn

755 - 36th ST SE
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49501

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator TOUYA Schuelnabis

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB 1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

It help me protect me when I'm
Walking across Road It also help my
Keen as crossing Road make driver more
aware of help crossing Road

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely, Kristen Peltz

755 30th St SE
Wyomins MI 49501

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Tonya Schuitmaker

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. Safety is important to me because of these reasons:

I choose to bike because biking benefits
my health and the health of my community.

While I try to be safe while biking, the added protection
offered in SB1029 would help me feel safer. Additionally
I have friends in wheelchairs, and I often see
cars driving dangerously close to them. My
friends are vulnerable and their ability to be on
the road and cross the street needs to be
protected.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Adelyn VonTol
1363 Cobb Drive SE
Apt 2B
Grand Rapids, MI, 49508

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Tonya Schuitmaker (vice chair)

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB 1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

We would like to have money
spent on lengthening the crosswalks
to allow individuals in wheelchairs,
walkers or anyone w/ a difficulty crossing
enough time to cross safely. Also
have a bill pass also to prosecute
and be a felony if someone is
hit or killed.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Dalores Calangela
2431 OSCAR DR SE
Grand Rapids MI 4950869

Senator *Tonya Schuitmaker*
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator *Schuitmaker*

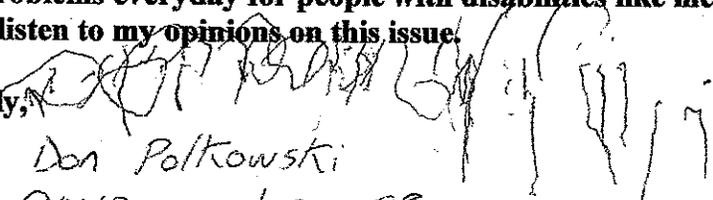
I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about *SB 1029* and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. *SB 1029* is important to me because of these reasons:

The Bill SB 10 Should be adopted because people like me in wheelchairs can't get across the street fast enough. My friend had a neighbor get killed because the light changed to fast. So many folks with disabilities are afraid of getting hurt in areas with lights that go to fast or in areas that have no side walks at all. We can't go out as much because we might get hurt. So please pass this bill so we can be safer.
Thank you!

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,


Don Polkowski
7047 Madison SE
Grand Rapids MI 49454

Senator
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator

TONYA SCHULTZMAKER

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to about SB 1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. SB 1099 is important to me because of these reasons:

I FEEL AFRAID FOR
PEOPLE WHO ARE
ELDERLY.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

CHRISLAMKIN

755th St SE
WYOMING MI 49501

Senator Tanya Schmitmaker
Michigan State Senate
PO. Box 30036
Lansing, MI. 48909 - 7536

Dear Senator Schmitmaker

I am a member of Kent RICC (Regional Inclusive Community Coalition) a grass roots advocacy group sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council. We are citizens with disabilities that work to improve the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

I am writing to you today to talk to ^{you} about SB1029 and how it affects my everyday life as you decide where to spend Michigan's money. I know Michigan is short on money for all the needed programs, but please keep the following points in mind. Bill SB1029 is important to me because of these reasons:

For people with disabilities or a
disability and confided to a walker,
or wheelchair or scooter. Please
allow more time on the walk signs to
cross the street safely. It is very
scarry to cross the street with so
many fast drivers. I beleive this isa
very important bill to pass.

In conclusion, I know that the budget decisions for our state are in a very difficult time right now. However, for the reasons I have listed please remember to keep the above service(s) as much as possible. Please keep in mind that cuts to vital programs cause problems everyday for people with disabilities like me. Thank you for taking time to listen to my opinions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Lathy Ling

2000 Saginaw Rd. S.E.,

apt. #109

Grand Rapids Mi. 49506