



1213 Center Street
P.O. Box 27187
Lansing MI 48909

Phone: 517-485-6022
www.michigantrails.org

Fax: 517-347-8145

Testimony on HB 4466 before the House Transportation Committee May 30, 2017

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Transportation Committee!

My name is Bob Wilson and I am the Executive Director of the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance. We are the statewide voice for all non-motorized trail users in the state, helping people build, connect and promote trails for a healthier and more prosperous Michigan. We are an organization consisting of individual members, 26 member groups along with affiliate organizations—in total representing thousands of avid trail users all over this state—including hikers, cyclists, runners, walkers, kayakers, and horseback riders who value safe and reliable transportation as both a means to an end and a way to appreciate the natural, historical and cultural wonders of this state!

While we prefer the use of trails where and when available, we acknowledge the importance of making our roads and streets safe for all to use and wholeheartedly support legislation that seeks to reinforce the importance of proper operation of automobiles. HB 4466 is a common-sense measure that will increase penalties and provide clarifications for what constitutes the improper use of a portable electronic device while driving. This bill is an important adjunct to several other pieces of legislation that will in total help to improve the transportation culture of this state and contribute to a greater understanding of the need for motorists to share the road with cyclists and prevent the kind of accidents that have unfortunately resulted from lack of understanding of our current laws. Ultimately, we believe that all Michigan citizens understand the need for motorists and cyclists to share our roads in a way that provides for and promotes mutual respect.

It is our hope that legislation such as HB 4466 will help us to advance this cause.

Affiliated with

**MICHIGAN
FITNESS
FOUNDATION**

