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or email to [estevan.ginsburg \[\[ @T \]\] sen.ca.gov](mailto:estevan.ginsburg@sen.ca.gov)**

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March ##, 2020

Senator Jim Beall  
State Capitol Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[Estevan.Ginsburg@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Estevan.Ginsburg@sen.ca.gov)

**Re: Support for Senate Bill 945 (Beall) – Road Safety: Far Hand Reach**

Dear Senator Beall,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 945, Cyclist Safety Far Hand Reach.

**[TWO TO THREE SENTENCES ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION]**

Multimodal transportation networks are becoming the new normal across California. With the increase of sharable modes of transportation (bikes, scooters, etc.), the risk for injury and collision has also increased. While California has taken steps to make transportation safer for its residents, there is still a need to educate drivers on safely interacting with other road users. One particularly dangerous interaction, commonly known as dooring, occurs when a car door is unexpectedly opened in the path of a bicyclist, resulting in a collision. Dooring can lead to serious injuries and even death.

SB 945 will provide a simple solution to avoid dooring incidents by requiring the Department of Motor Vehicles to include the Far Hand Reach, or “Dutch Reach,” method to California’s Driver Handbook. The Far Hand Reach method is a simple practice in which the driver will open the door with their right hand which requires their head to pivot towards the window. This simple practice helps the driver check for bikers and cars that are approaching from behind.

For these reasons and to make our roads safer for all, we strongly support this innovative legislation.

Sincerely,

**[YOUR NAME]**  
**[YOUR TITLE]**