



## Jeff Cogen, Multnomah County Chair

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Senator Lee Beyer  
Chair, Senate Committee on Business and Transportation  
900 Court St. NE, S-419  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Senate Committee on Business and Transportation:

As Chair of Multnomah County I write in support of Senate Bill 833, directing the Department of Transportation to issue short-term driver's licenses and short-term learner's permits to applicants who do not provide proof of legal presence in the United States, who have complied with all license and/ or permit requirements and have lived in Oregon for more than one year.

Thanks to the leadership of Governor Kitzhaber and his Task Force we have a commonsense public safety measure that would achieve the important goals of improving traffic safety and reducing the number of unlicensed, uninsured drivers on Oregon's roads.

Thanks to the perspective from Oregon DMV, leaders from both parties, law enforcement, business, the insurance industry, faith communities, farm labor and immigrant advocates – the legislature has an opportunity to increase public safety while removing barriers for the hard working members of our community.

Our fellow Oregonians need to drive. Undocumented workers must drive to work, to worship, to shop, to seek health care and to school. Driving allows hardworking families the essential opportunity to balance the demands of life. And denying the right to do so lawfully is an unfair barrier to a good quality of life.

When Oregonians and undocumented workers cannot get a driver's license or permit, it's been shown they will drive unlicensed and uninsured. Society pays the costs when we have uninsured, untested drivers on Oregon's roads making everybody less safe.

The "Safe Roads Act" is the product of two years' hard work that increases both public safety and equity in our state. I strongly support it. I ask that you do as well. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cogen  
Chair, Multnomah County