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SB833 Testimony

Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I would caution you that - just because you *can* pass this bill, it doesn't mean you should.

Oregon *has* a good, strong driver license bill. But, in 2012 a letter was read on the steps of our Capitol that stated the Governor intended to find a way to put drivers licenses back in the hands of people in our country illegally.

Curious about the Governor's intentions, I began asking how I might sign up to be on the task force mentioned in the letter. For weeks I was given the run-around and I began to get suspicious. With an unbelievable amount of effort by several people, even filing several Freedom of Information requests (which were denied), it was discovered that a secret group had *already* been formed...nearly a *year* prior to the announcement.

The Mexican Consulate, illegal alien advocates, those that represent businesses that benefit from an illegal workforce and others were guiding the creation of what is now known as SB833.

The deceit preceding this bill is shameful. Tax paying, law abiding citizens have been shut out at every turn and kept completely in the dark while a *foreign* government strategizes with our government officials about how to get Oregon drivers license into the hands of foreign nationals illegally in our country.

Just a month ago, a Senator on this committee lied to my face about his knowledge of the existence of such a bill.

Why? Why all the secrecy and deceit?

I can only guess that our Legislators would rather be manipulated by a foreign government, by those in our country illegally and by those who benefit from having them here than risk having law-abiding constituents find out what they are really up to?

Advocates are trying to make this a public safety issue....public safety, my...eye!

The real motivation behind this bill is much more incidious.

This bill is wrong on every level.

Again, I caution you...just because you *can* pass this bill...doesn't mean you should.