



Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon

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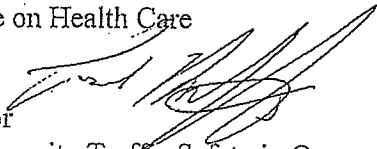
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Community Traffic Safety Program

Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center

January 31, 2013

TO: The Honorable Mitch Greenlick, Chair
House Committee on Health Care

FROM: Todd Hinchliffe 
Executive Director
Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon (ACTS Oregon)

SUBJECT: HB 2092

I am writing to encourage you to support HB 2092, which would require Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Public Health Division to establish and administer an injury and violence prevention program. As the Executive Director of ACTS Oregon we partner with OHA through Safe Kids Oregon to reduce unintentional injuries to children.

This bill would establish clear authority for the OHA to conduct population-based activities to reduce injury and violence, and conduct activities with partners throughout the state to reduce injuries due to accidents, suicide, homicide and poisoning. Currently, OHA has regulatory authority to collect data on diseases. Extending authority to cover injury is a logical next step.

The Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon (ACTS Oregon) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization. Our mission is to reduce fatalities, injuries and the severity of injuries resulting from vehicle crashes throughout Oregon. ACTS programs reach over 27,400 Oregonians each year to reduce the number of fatalities and crashes on our roads. Our mission's focus is on community traffic safety and child passenger safety working collaboratively with partners statewide. We have been partnering with the Injury and Violence Prevention Program at Oregon Public Health for over 16 years.

Examples of our partnership include:

- 1) designing a data collection system for child passenger safety and evaluating our efforts to determine the need for child passenger safety programming and training. This data was used to direct our focus and resources to underserved counties.
- 2) promotion of the annual national Child Passenger Safety Week, providing data for fact sheets and their partnership to reach county health departments and hospitals.

The quality of work from the Injury Program inspires partnerships and commitment from throughout Oregon. We support HB 2092 because it is important to clearly establish the authority of the Oregon Health Authority as an injury and violence prevention program. With this clarification, injury prevention program staff will be able to focus their effort on preventing injuries instead of continuing to expend effort convincing partners about the legitimacy of their work. In addition, with clear authority Oregon will be able to compete for federal and foundation funds to support injury prevention efforts and partnerships.

I hope you will support HB 2092.

ACTS Oregon is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit committed to reducing fatalities and injuries on Oregon's roadways.