



MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING
Lane County Chapter
c/o Lane County Victim Impact Panel
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TO: Senate Business and Transportation Committee

FROM: Cate Duke, Board Member
MADD Lane County Chapter

RE: **SENATE BILL 13 - SUPPORT**

Thank you Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the committee, for the opportunity to present testimony on this important topic. Every year thousands of people are killed in impaired driving crashes. These crashes are not pre-destined – they are 100% preventable. It is important to consider the use of every tool to continue to reduce the number of lives lost. MADD’s mission is “. . . to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes and prevent underage drinking.” MADD strongly supports the use of sobriety checkpoints as another way to work toward their goal of “No More Victims.”

Oregon is one of only twelve states that currently do not utilize sobriety checkpoints. The effectiveness of sobriety checkpoints has been extensively studied over the past twenty years. According to the CDC, after a systemic review of 11 high-quality studies they found that sobriety checkpoints resulted in a reduction of alcohol-related crashes by about 20 percent. These reductions can be attributed not only to apprehending impaired drivers during the checkpoints, but more importantly, through the deterrent of drivers getting behind the wheel to begin with. The media coverage ahead of each checkpoint creates a sense of caution and awareness that result in drivers planning ahead by utilizing designated drivers.

With the passage of our new recreational marijuana law, now is the time for Oregon to join the other 38 states that use this prevention and enforcement tool. Let us not turn aside an opportunity to further reduce the number of injuries and lives lost due to impaired driving.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving strongly urges you forward Senate Bill 13.