



Oregon State Police Officers' Association

## OREGON STATE POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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Date: February 14, 2015  
To: Senate Business and Transportation Committee  
Subject: Senate Bill 13

The Oregon State Police Officers' Association strongly supports Senate Bill 13 to establish guidelines for sobriety checkpoints. The goal of sobriety checkpoints is to deter drivers from driving impaired and through "fear of arrest" chose not to drive. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and other organizations have consistently found that the most effective tool in reducing motor vehicle crashes is high-visibility enforcement. High-visibility enforcement includes: public advertising, law enforcement partnerships, saturation patrols, and community involvement. Sobriety checkpoints are stationary saturations for the purposes of detecting and removing impaired drivers from our roadways.

Sobriety checkpoints, for many states, have been a tool since 1980 and the overwhelming majority of states utilize this practice in an effort to save lives. Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), estimates that sobriety checkpoints—reduce the crashes involving alcohol by approximately 20 percent. One trooper described a fatality caused by an impaired driver as a "random homicide." Let's save more lives.

The Oregon State Police Officers' Association appreciates the committee's time and openness to address this public safety matter.

Michael S. Iwai, Vice President  
Oregon State Police Officers' Association