

February 22,2015

Howard Gieger

P.O. Box 249

John Day, Oregon 97845

James LaBar, Committee Administrator

Re: Senate Bill 192 Off Road Vehicle Use

Dear Mr. LaBar,

I have been using ORV's for many years. I fully support SB 192. This bill would economically benefit many small towns and the people in rural Oregon. ORV use is allowed in most small rural town city streets and county roads, but riding on State highways is not permitted. This restriction is a problem in towns that have State highways running through them. Using ORV's on rural State highways does not create any problems with safety as most, if not all have set speed limits within the town.

A large number of the counties in Eastern Oregon allows use of ORV's on county roads. Many of these roads are only a short distance from town. Allowing ORV use on State highways would allow access to these county roads, which in turn allows access to trails. Riding on rural state highways would allow ranchers and farmers to access their fields and pastures without the fear of breaking the State motor vehicle laws. Riding ORV's on rural State Highways creates far less safety issues than

bicycles riders. Most all ORV's have headlamps, tail lamps and break lamps, which allows motor vehicles to see them clearly.

I see no reason that this should not get full support and be passed as most of the people in Eastern Oregon are in favor of it.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the bill.

Howard Gieger

Oregon State Snowmobile Assn, past president

Member of Grant County Access Board

Cc: Megan Chuinard Policy Analyst