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OREGON STATE SENATE
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Senate Bill 502
Senator Rod Monroe Testimony
March 9, 2015

Senate Bill 502 would require drivers to turn on their headlights anytime that they are using their windshield wipers. In Oregon headlights must be used from sunset to sunrise or when visibility is less than 1000 feet. SB 502 would make it clear that when you are using your windshield wipers your head lights must be turned on. I am amazed at how many drivers drive in the rain without using their headlights making it difficult to see them. When I start my car I turn on my headlights, I want to make sure that other drivers can see me. The major purpose of requiring the use of headlights when the windshield wipers are in use is so other drivers can see you. Light blue, light green, gray, white or other like colors along with the mist make it hard for other drivers to see you. All states have requirements on the use of headlights. States have differing regulations as to poor visibility from 200 feet to 1000 feet requiring the driver to turn on their headlights. Nineteen states have a law requiring headlights to be on when your windshield wipers are in use. Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Maine, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia.

