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## **Testimony before the House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development**

**April 3, 2015**

### **HB 3094 and HB 3402**

Chair McKeown and members of the committee, my name is Katy King and I'm here today representing OCEP, the Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. OCEP is a medical society that has represented physicians specializing in emergency medicine since 1971 and its members share a commitment to improve emergency healthcare for all Oregonians.

OCEP opposes House Bills 3094 and 3402, which increase speed limits. HB 3094 increase the speed limit to 75 miles per hour for certain vehicles on interstate highways and HB 3402 increases the speed limit for certain vehicles on specified highway section of road.

Emergency physicians oppose these bills for one simple reason: speed kills.

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration estimated 10,219 lives were lost in speed-related crashes in 2012. Speeding plays a role in 30 percent of all fatal crashes because it reduces the ability of passenger restraint systems and roadway safety guardrails to protect the driver and passengers in the vehicle.

Traumatic injury from motor vehicle crashes is also one of the most frequent causes of injury to patients treated by emergency physicians. To reduce fatalities and injuries, OCEP recommends robust enforcement of existing speed limits and opposes any further increases in speed limits.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today.