



Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII

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DATE: April 4, 2017

TO: Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Chuck Hayes, GAC-DUII Chair

SUBJECT: Support for amended SB693

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

The Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII (GAC-DUII) would like to express its support for the anticipated -2 amendments for SB693 that have removed references to statutes that are directly connected to DUII-related suspensions. The connection between driving privileges and consequences for DUII cannot reasonably be severed, and we appreciate the Committee's willingness to consider amendments that protect Oregon's DUII laws and tools to improve public safety on the roadways.

The GAC-DUII understands the intention of SB693 and other bills this session that seek to streamline and clarify the laws surrounding license suspension. There are many situations where the suspension of a driver license has no connection whatsoever to a person's driving record, offenses committed while driving, during the adjudication process, and unrelated to the privilege of driving itself. This creates both public confusion and an ever-increasing bureaucratic burden on the DMV. With one in five drivers being actively suspended at any given time in Oregon, it is clear that a suspended license is not a one-size-fits-all solution. While motivating and encouraging compliance with laws is a laudable goal, using the driver license in so many unrelated circumstances may likely have the opposite effect and unintended consequences. However, for those circumstances where a suspension is indeed connected to driving offenses, a suspension remains a motivating tool for courts to gain the compliance necessary for public safety.

Thank you for your consideration of the -2 amendments for SB693 that would protect Oregon's DUII laws, and retain the ability to suspend a driver license for related violations.

Sincerely,

Chuck Hayes
Chair
Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII