

Senator Floyd Prozanski
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee

May 22, 2017

RE: HB 2598

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

I am writing you to support HB 2598. On June 30, 2015, I was riding my motorcycle in Portland, Oregon and was stopped in line on the northbound ramp to I-5 from Alberta Street. I was behind a number of cars waiting to be metered onto the freeway.

Without any warning I was suddenly struck from behind by a car with so much force that it pushed both me and my motorcycle under the car in front of me. The car continued to drive on and struck a barrier wall down the ramp with so much force that it broke the front wheel axle.

I was trapped underneath the running car and suffered burns to my face and body. My mouth was torn open and a tooth was broken. I ended up having a fractured vertebra, fractured hip and pelvis, three broken ribs, a bruised lung, lacerated liver, and multiple cuts and abrasions that required stitches. I had to undergo a long a painful rehabilitation process and still have not fully recovered.

This accident has changed my life forever. The driver of the car denied that he was on his cell phone at the time of the accident and was only issued a traffic citation for careless driving and a fine of \$435. I believe that the driver was reckless and should have been charged with a crime.

I love riding motorcycles and understand the risks of riding. What I cannot accept is reckless drivers hurting riders and passengers and not facing any real consequences. I know that passing this bill will not change what happened to me but I feel strongly that the next driver that recklessly injures a motorcyclist or their passenger should be held accountable. I urge you to support HB 2598.

Thank you,

Dwight Gibbons
Florence, OR 97439

REGISTER OF ACTIONS

CASE No. 15VI91466

State of Oregon vs [REDACTED]

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

Case Type: **Offense Violation**
Date Filed: **07/03/2015**
Location: **Multnomah**

PARTY INFORMATION

Defendant	[REDACTED]	Attorneys
Plaintiff	State of Oregon	

CHARGE INFORMATION

Charges:	Statute	Level	Date
1. Careless Driving Contributing to an Accident	811.135(2)	Violation Class A	06/30/2015

EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

Date	Event
DISPOSITIONS	
07/24/2015	Plea 1. Careless Driving Contributing to an Accident No Contest Created: 07/24/2015 9:27 AM
07/24/2015	Disposition 1. Careless Driving Contributing to an Accident Convicted - ePay Created: 07/24/2015 9:27 AM
OTHER EVENTS AND HEARINGS	
07/03/2015	Citation Created: 07/03/2015 7:46 PM
07/28/2015	Closed Created: 07/28/2015 8:39 AM
07/28/2015	Judgment - Violation General (Judicial Officer: Authority, Administrative) Created: 07/28/2015 8:39 AM

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Defendant [REDACTED]		
	Total Financial Assessment	436.50
	Total Payments and Credits	436.50
	Balance Due as of 03/03/2017	0.00
07/03/2015	Transaction Assessment	435.00
07/24/2015	Transaction Assessment	1.50
07/24/2015	xWeb Accessed Payment Receipt # 2015-1195699	(1.50)
07/24/2015	xWeb Accessed Payment Receipt # 2015-1195700 [REDACTED]	(435.00)