

**Testimony to the House Committee on Transportation Policy
on House Bill 2667**

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**Angela Crowley-Koch, Oregon Environmental Council
Oregon Environmental Council**

Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports HB 2667, which creates a new task force to examine strategies to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities on our roads.

As many stakeholders come together this legislative session to recommend investments and policies that will improve Oregon's transportation system, one thing we can all agree on is that we should refuse to accept human deaths or lifelong suffering as a result of road traffic.

Adopting a Vision Zero policy statewide means that the state of Oregon would *actively* work to:

- Instill more responsibility among road users and take enforcement action against dangerous behavior
- Make vehicles safer
- Improve road infrastructure in a way that results in best safety for all users

Besides agreeing that we have a moral obligation to design cars, roads and rules of the road to protect road users from being killed in traffic, why would an environmental advocacy organization like ours support Vision Zero? Because efforts to improve the safety of transportation dovetail with efforts to build a sustainable transport system. As one example, when roads are made safe for pedestrians and bicyclists, more people choose to walk and bicycle instead of driving; this in turn curbs greenhouse gas emissions.

OEC enthusiastically supports HB 2667 as well as a balanced transportation funding package this session. We hope you will too.