



Support HB 4116A: Moving Equipment and Animals Safely

The coalition of agricultural organizations urges your **YES VOTE** on HB 4116A. This bill clarifies HB 2597 (2017) and will help ensure safety when moving farm equipment or hauling livestock along public roadways.

Passed into law in 2017, HB 2597 eliminated an affirmative defense for farmers and ranchers who use handheld communication devices “for the purpose of farming or agricultural operations.” The prohibition on using mobile electronic devices when operating a vehicle currently applies broadly to agricultural operators—from large swathers moving between grass seed fields to smaller tractors driving between fruit orchards.

HB 4116A offers a much-needed fix to address road safety concerns for Oregon farmers and ranchers and their pilot car drivers, ensuring safe travel when:

- operating a tractor or other implement of husbandry that is wider than the lane of travel;
- transporting livestock due to dynamic shifting of a heavy load; or
- operating a slow-moving vehicle (ORS 815.110).

HB 4116A would make it clear that livestock transportation, wide loads, and slow-moving vehicles, and those vehicles that are assisting in such transport, are exempt from the prohibition on using a mobile electronic device while driving if the communication is being used for the safe movement of these vehicles.

Please vote ‘YES’ on SB HB4116A

From the Desk of
Senator Brian Boquist