

Chair Williamson,

I'm writing in support of HB 2046. As an Oregonian for almost 50 years now, I have been on many drives across our fair state in which I have not seen a single OSP Trooper, which seems more and more common in recent years. This is a shame, because it is common to see other drivers that are not obeying traffic laws. The increase in technology and the increase in our population have caused a lackadaisical attitude to our driving laws, which result in a number of poor driving choices. The lack of OSP presence, I think, causes many to take their chances at breaking speed and texting laws.

I am always reassured when I see State Troopers, because I know that others around me are being more careful and thoughtful in their driving. As a matter of fact, my journeys into Washington state have been quite eye opening because I have seen a much higher percentage of law enforcement on the highways. Not surprisingly, I am less likely to see other drivers breaking traffic laws because they know there is a greater chance of being caught.

I wish everyone would make safe choices just for the sake of safety. Barring that, I wish that people who chose to break our driving laws would only harm themselves. However, this is not the way our society works. Having a number of troopers proportionate to our population would go a long way in making me feel safe as a driver, and as a parent of young drivers.

Thank you for your time,

Heather Anderson