Moving Oregon Forward Safely: Letter of Support



Date: 03/17/2019

To: House Committee on Business and Labor, and House Leadership

From: Oregon Impact

RE: Position Statement on HB 3023: Moving Oregon Forward Safely

Chair Jeff Barker and members of the Committee on Business and Labor, Speaker Kotek, and Majority Leader Williamson:

At Oregon Impact, we provide programs to ensure that our children are riding safely on our roadways, teens understand the consequences of impaired and distracted driving, and the adults in their lives are given the tools to guide them. Growing out of the Clackamas County DUII Impact Panel, it became our mission to prevent drivers from ever getting to a panel before being more aware of the risks of driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or prescription medication and the impact that has on families, children and the community. We now offer our programs throughout the state.

Oregon Impact supports HB 3023 which will create statewide standards for rideshare companies, drivers, and vehicles in Oregon. The bill sets standards for driver background checks, vehicle safety, and insurance.

We support HB 3023 because in 2015, Portland became the first Oregon city to allow rideshare. Uber has worked alongside us for many years, as they have understood as we do, that they offer more than just a ride home. They have been instrumental in keeping Oregonians on track that have received a DUII. With their license being revoked, they must still work, maintain their family commitments, probation appointments and any rehabilitation that is necessary for their recovery. Public transportation simply cannot fill all these needs.

Now, Oregonians across the state are looking to rideshare as an important, affordable, and safe transportation option. However, the patchwork of regulations increasingly makes it difficult for rideshare companies and drivers to meet growing demand, particularly as Oregon's tourism industry flourishes.

Oregon Impact respectfully requests the committee support HB 3023 and commends Chair Barker and the committee for giving this legislation due consideration in service to your constituencies and Oregonians across the state. This bill is critical to creating safety and sustainability for our rideshare community.

Sincerely,

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