

14 April 2019

Richard F. Wisner  
Lincoln County Oregon

Joint Committee on Transportation  
Salem, Oregon

Re: House Bill 2015 - Relating to documents issued by Oregon Department of Transportation.

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Beyer & Representative NckKeown, Co-Vice Chairs Senator Boquist & Representative Noble, and Committee members Senators Bentz, Frederick, Gelser and Representatives Evans, Findley, Lewis, McLain & Witt;

It should be recalled that in November 2014 Oregonians overwhelmingly defeated a similar bill that if enacted would have given an official Oregon driver license to illegal aliens. Thirty five out of Oregon's 36 counties voted against it and of those counties, eighteen voted NO by over 80%. A majority of Democrats, Republicans and independents voted against it. It was defeated in all five of Oregon's congressional districts. The results of that election should make the will of the citizens abundantly clear on this issue.

But instead, what does the Oregon's current legislature do? They introduce this bill, HB 2015, in an attempt to overturn what the voters of our state have made overwhelmingly clear.

In someone's famous words, "The people have spoken."

But apparently this Legislature and the governor do not like what we had to say, and in affect are demonstrating their contempt for the majority of the people of Oregon. This blatant

attempt to ignore the outcome of a democratic election is the sort of arrogance of power one sees only in authoritarian dictatorships.

Adding to that haughtiness the alleged need for this bill is being proclaimed to be so dire that an emergency clause has been attached, which most Oregon citizens these days know would prevent opponents of the bill from blocking its implementation through another citizen's veto referendum such as occurred in 2014 when Ballot Measure 88 overturned Senate Bill 833.

With the foresight to end such farcical use of the emergency clause, Oregon Representatives Gomberg, Post and Nearman introduced House Joint Resolution 14 this session, which will require justification for early implementation of acts, i.e., declaring a bill an emergency, which would end the frivolous habit of declaring any bill an emergency simply as a political means to an end. Unfortunately, HJR 14 has been languishing in the House Committee on Rules since late January.

Saying this legislation will make the roads safer is the same as saying that if gun laws are changed it will change behavior or, like saying that we can change the weather by changing the thermometers.

And by the way; we often hear that 'no one is above the law'. Yet ... people that are in our country illegally seem to get a pass on that sort of thinking. I am positively in favor of immigration. I have personally helped hundreds of people immigrate to America. Legally.

I strongly urge this Committee to stop House Bill 2015 in its tracks. Do not pass it out of Committee and let it die a natural death.

Sincerely,



Richard F. Wisner