From: Keith LaHaie

To: JCT Exhibits

Subject: OPPOSITION TO HB 2015

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 10:55:02 AM

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

We cannot express strongly enough our opposition to HB 2015. This bill is a **flagrant attempt to OVERTURN THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE**. That will was demonstrated by the **overwhelming defeat** of Proposition 88 in 2014 – has the Legislature forgotten that? The voters have made it abundantly clear that we **DO NOT APPROVE** of the state issuing driver licenses to <u>illegal aliens</u>. That's exactly what this legislation intends to do. This blatant disregard for the will of the citizens of Oregon is extremely disrespectful and downright disgusting.

What does the Legislature not understand about the term "illegal alien"? There are thousands of people in this state who have violated federal immigration laws. They're in the country illegally! Issuing these people driver licenses will legitimize their presence in this state. Through this bill and Oregon's unfortunate status as a "sanctuary state," the Legislature is encouraging and abetting criminal activity. HB 2015 has nothing to do with making our roadways safer — does anyone really think that someone in this country illegally is going to purchase insurance? From what I understand, it would be very difficult and expensive for them to do so even if they wanted to. No, it is clear that the Legislature intends to cultivate thousands of new Democrat voters, as well as a swelling class of people who are principally dependent on taxpayer largesse. The driver license is a "breeder document," and we don't believe for a minute that illegal aliens won't be registered to vote through Motor Voter, or for benefits through various state programs.

So the citizens of Oregon are expected to abide by all federal, state and local laws, but our own Legislature thinks that non-citizens deserve an exemption from those laws. Does this even make sense? How is this fair?!

Lastly – HB 2015 is yet another example of the **continuing misuse of the "emergency clause"** – amplifying this bill's disrespect for the voters of Oregon. There is no emergency that will be mitigated by the passage of this bill! The Legislature has even attached an emergency clause to a bill restricting the use of plastic straws – are you kidding me!? According to the Oregon Constitution, emergency clauses were designed only for new laws necessary for "immediate preservation of the **public peace, health and safety."** Please. This is just another exploitation of the emergency clause in order to circumvent the **Will of The People**. Believe me – this tactic has not gone unnoticed by the citizens of Oregon – we will be fighting you on this!

HB 2015 deserves a "NO" vote. If the Legislature intends to overturn the will of the people, an initiative should be placed on the ballot.

Thank you.

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