



April 16, 2019

Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown, and Members of the Committee:

I write to you today on behalf of United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 555, in support of House Bill 2015. We represent over 25,000 workers in Oregon and Southwest Washington in several industries, including retail, meatpacking, healthcare, fueling, and more. UFCW Local 555 workers are a diverse group that have grown into the largest private sector labor union in Oregon, and we are proud to be a strong collective voice for working people.

The Oregon labor community is centered around the idea that all people should be able to work, live and take care of their families with dignity and respect. Yet, too many people in our state are unable to do so because they do not have access to a driver's license. Being unable to access a license to drive puts many UFCW workers, and people across the state, without legal status in an impossible position: either choose to drive without a license and risk arrest and deportation or choose not to drive and be unable to provide for their family.

We believe that no one who calls Oregon home should have to live in fear of being deported or worry about their families being torn apart simply because they are taking their kids to school, going to work, or taking care of their family or neighbors.

It is critical for workers to have access to transportation, and we also know that it is better for employers when their staff is able to get to and from work reliably. At UFCW Local 555, we strongly believe that when we improve living and working conditions for one of us, we all benefit. This critical policy is no different. HB 2015 has the opportunity to make roads safer for everyone, preserve critical state resources, and support our economy.

We have an opportunity to make sure all Oregonians can go about daily life and provide for themselves and their families safely and legally. As a member of the Fair Shot Coalition, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Union Local 555 knows that the time is now to ensure that all Oregonians have equal access to our roads, and respectfully urges the committee to **support House Bill 2015**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Billman  
Director of Legislative and Community Action  
UFCW Local 555