



April 17, 2019

## **Support for House Bill 2015: Equal Access to Roads Act**

Co-Chair Senator Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Representative Caddy McKeown, and Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

We urge your support for House Bill 2015, which would allow qualified Oregon residents to obtain a regular Class-C driver license.

HB 2015 is a logical follow-up to the 2017 REAL ID law. Oregon will have a REAL ID-compliant enhanced license in 2020 and HB 2015 ensures that those who do not want, or cannot get, a REAL ID can still drive legally in Oregon.

Many Oregonians, including the elderly, immigrants without legal status, those born in other states, victims of domestic violence, and victims of natural disasters, do not have access to documents needed to get a REAL ID-compliant driver's license. Standard licenses, without the strict requirements of REAL ID, will help ensure all Oregonians can access a license to drive and have a legal way to identify themselves.

Oregonians of all types, regardless if they are urban or rural and what documents they possess, need to be able to participate in the local economy and prove they can drive, get licensed and obtain auto insurance.

Prior to 2008 and for decades before that – proving you are a resident of the state, providing proof of your identity and the ability to pass the written and driving test was the standard. It made sense – learn how to drive and be safe on the roads. HB 2015 will return driver license eligibility to pre-2008 standards by requiring identification, proof of residency and the ability to drive.

Oregon would not be alone in this legislation as Washington State and California have both expanded eligibility for non-REAL ID driver licenses.

**We urge your support for House Bill 2015.**

Greg Astley  
Director of Government Affairs  
Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association