

April 17, 2019

To: Joint Committee on Transportation  
RE: 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,

Good afternoon, my name is Judy Marquez, I am from Woodburn, Oregon. Woodburn has been my home for 32 years. It is where I worked, have built my life and continue to grow. I am a DACAmented resident or also known as the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy. This was a great opportunity for me because I was able to attend school, work and obtain a driver's license. I am currently a student at George Fox University. However, these privileges also increased my responsibilities at home. As the only one in my family with access to driver's license, my family relies on me to drive them to work, doctor's appointment, grocery shopping and all daily family chores. As you can imagine, this sets great barriers for my entire family, because we are on a limited schedule and resources to get to the places we need to.

As an educator, I know how deeply this issue affects my community. The fear of punishment for driving without a license is real, and it gives myself and my community high levels of stress. A driver's license will give the undocumented community the opportunity to get our basic needs met. My parents will be able to go to work on their own, to go to their doctor's appointments and to buy food. I will be able to continue my career without having burdens that many other Americans do not have, including high stress. As a teacher, a daughter and an educator I only hope that other parents including myself can make it home safely. Having the right to obtain a license gives my family a better chance for a just and healthier life.

I respectfully urge the committee to support HB 2015. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy Marques