

Dear Chair co-Chair and rules committee,

My name is John Wilson. I am speaking today on behalf of the TriMet Crash Advisory Committee in regards to SB 1053. I am 34 and at the age of 29 I was struck by a TriMet bus. When riding my skateboard on my way to work at the Clackamas town Center. I just got off the light rail at the Clackamas Towncenter. The last stop for the greenline. I remember exiting the second car and trying to quickly walk past the crowd of people in front of me. Halfway down the ramp I cleared the crowd and stepped onto my longboard. While slowly starting to accelerate down the ramp. I noticed a TriMet bus approaching the four way stop, to pull into the garage. On my way to work little did I know that the bus approaching the four way stop, wouldn't stop and hit me. The strike was swift yet brief I remember hearing the crunch of glass as my face impacted the windshield. Next was my body sliding on the roadway after hitting the firm pavement. I tried to crawl thinking to myself I need to survive for my newborn six month old child. Shortly after I heard a voice ask me if I was OK and if I knew what happened. My response was I felt like I got hit by a bus and her response was Yep, that's what happened. She told me not to move because I was trying to figure out what bones I had broken. When I saw the blood dripping from my forehead, I dozed off until the paramedics arrived. I was rushed to OHSU to their emergency department. The following morning after the accident my body was very stiff, I could not move a muscle. When I was released from the hospital. I was given a cane to walk with for the next two or three weeks. I also have a very big scar on my face due to hitting the windshield. I eventually lost my job due to the fact that I didn't know when I was going to be released back to work. I was forced to move in with my older brother and his wife. My brother drove me around due to the fact that I couldn't walk well and I also had anxiety and couldn't drive, because of it. TriMet said I was at fault, but I didn't have to pay any of my medical bills, due to the fact TriMet paid them. So if I was really at fault would TriMet have paid my medical bills? After that I never heard from TriMet again. I could not afford an attorney due to the fact that I had a six month old baby and living with my brother, I felt hopeless. My brother is a worship pastor I'm a Christian and god helped me through it. I come to you today to help pass this senate bill in hope that it will help people not live the life that I have lived .

Thank you for reading this today in hope that god will help you make the right decision. You can get in touch with me if you'd like.

Sincerely John Wilson

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