



**Claire Hall
County Commissioner**

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I encourage a YES vote on HB 4065 to end debt-based drivers license suspensions in Oregon.

We criminalize being poor in many ways, and this is one of the more insidious ones. If someone drives drunk, their license will be suspended for a year. If their license is suspended for failure to pay court debts, it can be for as long as 20 years.

How can we, in good conscience, tell people they need to strive to better themselves through education and work and then take away their ability to get to school, to a job, or take their child to school? Even though we're working to build a more robust public transit system, nearly three-quarters of all Oregonians are 16 or older driver to work. In 28 of our 36 counties, more than half the population doesn't live within half a mile of a stop operated by a transit agency.

Suspending drivers licenses for inability to pay fines further traps individuals in the vicious, downward spiral of poverty and should be abolished.

Claire Hall
Lincoln County Commissioner

