

To: Senate Committee on Rules

From: Aileen Kaye

Date: April 23, 2021

Re: "Yes" on HB 2560

Dear Chair Wagner and Members of the Committee:

I urge you to vote "Yes" on HB 2560 which would allow people to testify from their homes even when the threat of Covid is a thing of the past. This is an idea long overdue. We could save so much time, money, and environmental impact by testifying by video or phone.

I have come to the Capitol Building numerous times over the years. One has to get dressed up, leave early, find a parking spot, pay for parking, etc. And if one is employed, one has to take time off from their job. Also, it takes a whole morning, afternoon, or a whole day and possibly an overnight stay depending on where one lives. Also, if one is a farmer, an entire days work might be lost.

This bill allows for remote testimony. It does not preclude one from testifying in person which many will still do. This bill provides an additional tool people can use to communicate with the Oregon legislature.

It would greatly help people who can't afford to drive to Salem, people with disabilities, older people who might not be able to drive long distances, etc.

I can see absolutely no down side to this legislation. Please vote "yes" on HB 2560.

Sincerely,

Aileen Kaye