



State of Oregon
Office of State Representative Ricki Ruiz
House District 50 Gresham & East Portland
900 Court St, NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

Joint Committee on Transportation

May 18th, 2023

Co-Chair McLain, Co-Chair Frederick, and Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation

I write to you today in support of House Bill 2951 with the -1 Amendment and urge you to work session and approve this great piece of policy. House Bill 2951 aims to establish a much-needed program for awarding grants to providers of safety traffic education course for Spanish language traffic safety courses.

It is very important that we begin to roll out safety educational resources for our non-English speaking residents with the understanding that safety is the number one priority. Being able to comprehend traffic laws and definitions is crucial to continue to improve the safety of our communities and of our streets. Representative Neron has done a phenomenal job in working this bill with communities and has taken great considerations to the continued improvement of this policy.

I see this bill as a safety-first bill. The reality is, we live in a state that is full of different cultures and different spoken languages. Although this bill only aims for Spanish education, I can see this hopefully expanding in the future to other languages as well. I can't express enough how critical it is to learn about traffic safety laws and regulations. This bill is a start to improve safety and support our communities

I encourage this committee to support House Bill 2951 with the -1 amendment and move it out of committee.

Thank you,

State Representative Ricki Ruiz
Oregon House of Representatives
House District 50 (Gresham & East Portland)