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February 9, 2024

Oregon State Legislature
Attn: Joint Transportation Committee
Salem, Oregon

Dear Joint Transportation Committee,

On behalf of Hampton Lumber, I am writing to express our support for **Senate Bill (SB) 1556, the Highway 30 Study Bill**, which aims to examine road conditions from Astoria, Oregon to the Lewis and Clark Bridge crossing into Longview, Washington and explore new engineering controls, guard rails, etc. that can reduce crashes.

Hampton Lumber is a fourth-generation, family-owned company headquartered in Portland, Oregon. We operate three sawmills in Oregon, including one in the north coast community of Warrenton. We employ roughly 160 people in Clatsop County, many of whom rely on Highway 30 to get to and from work. This highway is also an important route for lumber trucks leaving our Warrenton mill heading to our reload facility in Portland and trucks carrying residuals from Warrenton to Wauna and Longview.

Unfortunately, Highway 30 is also a very dangerous road, with many curves, blind spots, and narrow lanes. Highway 30 is frequently closed due to road accidents, landslides, and weather, impacting local businesses and community safety. In the last two years alone, four fatal car crashes have occurred on Clatskanie Hill, around milepost 59 where there is an S-curve.

If Highway 30 is not improved, it will continue to have a negative impact on the safety and economic development of the rural, north coast economy. We strongly urge you to support SB 1556 and allocate funds for a comprehensive study of Highway 30.

Sincerely,

Kristin Rasmussen
Hampton Lumber