

Submitter: Joseph Stenger  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453  
Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and members of the Committee:

My name is Joseph Stenger. My passion is improving transportation options that reduce VMT and emissions. I strongly support HB 3453. Extending passenger rail from the west side of the Portland Metro area to Salem and Eugene would be wonderful!

I love living in the Portland area, but we are sorely lacking in inter-city public transit. Expanding train service farther south would have huge benefits: reducing congestion and travel times on I-5, reducing the emissions associated with Metro-to-Eugene travel, and improving the quality of travel for people needing to commute on that route who opt for the train.

Train travel is much safer and more pleasant than driving. No one enjoys fighting traffic on a commute. One's time on a train can be productive with one's work or hobby, whereas trying to be productive in that way while driving a car is hazardous. Train travel can even let you catch up on sleep! For legislators in the Portland area, frequent commuter rail would be so much preferable to driving to Salem.

I urge you to vote HB 3453 out of committee and support it until it becomes law.

Sincerely,

Joseph Stenger