

Submitter: Aire Uusitalo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

My name is Aire, and I strongly support HB 2025.

Without this House Bill, I am deeply concerned that my access to public transportation will be cut. I'm only a teenager and cannot drive yet, so I rely heavily on public transit. I've always been an advocate for public transportation — it's more eco-friendly and much safer than driving.

If this bill does not pass, over 40 essential bus lines — including ones I depend on — could be eliminated by 2027. Important rail projects, like the MAX Yellow Line extension to Tigard, the WES extension to Salem, a new airport-to-Clackamas Town Center line, and bus rapid transit on 82nd Avenue, are all at risk.

I also want to remind you that 75 years ago, people could ride streetcars from Portland all the way to places like Oregon City and Salem. Today, even basic bus service is often unreliable — largely because of decades of highway expansion. That trend needs to stop.

Passing HB 2025 would fund new transit projects and expand bus service to underserved communities. I urge you to support it — for people like me, and for the future of Oregon's transportation system.