

Submitter: Lauren Jones
On Behalf Of: Safer Streets for All
Committee: House Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4081

Chair and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

I am joining my friend and colleague, Frances, in opposing this bill as drafted. While I support the end goal of this legislation as a transportation safety advocate, I believe this bill requires targeted amendments to be effective and sustainable in Oregon.

If you look at comparable programs in neighboring Washington State, as well as California, New York, and Pennsylvania, those laws either explicitly prohibit or do not require capturing the driver's identity. Instead, they rely on an image of the license plate of the speeding vehicle.

National data show that requiring a facial picture introduces unnecessary privacy concerns for the public—particularly concerns about photographs being taken inside a vehicle. I have also learned throughout the years that it also creates operational and financial challenges. Matching a driver's face to DMV records adds a costly and time-intensive step for law enforcement, diverting resources away from safety and toward administrative processing.

Most importantly, this added requirement is not necessary to achieve the behavior change we are all seeking. Jurisdictions across the country have demonstrated that speed cameras reduce speeding and save lives without capturing facial pictures. License-plate-based systems work—and they do so while minimizing privacy risks and public opposition.

If Oregon is going to authorize work zone speed cameras, I strongly believe it is imperative that we do so in a way that reflects national best practices, protects privacy, and ensures public trust. Removing the facial image requirement would align Oregon with proven models already working successfully in Washington and California and would significantly improve this bill's likelihood of success.

I respectfully urge the committee to consider amending the bill accordingly. Thank you for your time and for your commitment to keeping Oregon's roads—and workers—safe.