



February 4, 2026

The Honorable Chris Gorsek, Co-Chair
The Honorable Susan McLain, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4081

Dear Chairs Gorsek and McLain:

The National Safety Council (NSC) writes in support of HB 4081. This legislation would establish a program that operates speed enforcement cameras in work zones on state highways to stem the tide of preventable crashes in the state and create safer roadways.

NSC is America's leading nonprofit safety advocate and has been for over 110 years. As a mission-based organization, we work to eliminate the leading causes of preventable death and injury, focusing our efforts on the workplace and roadway. We create a culture of safety to keep people safer in the workplace and beyond so they can live their fullest lives. Our 13,000+ member companies represent employees at nearly 41,000 U.S. worksites, including about 70 members in Oregon.

In 2023, 898 people were killed and 40,170 people were injured in work zone crashes nationwide – representing a 53 percent increase since 2010.¹ The majority of deaths in work zones are drivers and passengers of vehicles in transport (both those engaged in construction activities and those traveling through construction zones), nearby pedestrians, and bicyclists.² Unfortunately, speeding is a factor in about one-third of work zone fatal crashes.³ Oregon is not immune to this alarming trend, and the state has seen a steady increase in the number of crashes and fatalities in work zones in recent years.⁴ This proves that there is more to be done to shift driver behavior and reduce speeds in work zones, especially while highway workers are present.

According to a system analysis completed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), automated enforcement is highly effective in slowing down drivers and

¹ <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/motor-vehicle/motor-vehicle-safety-issues/work-zones/>

² Ibid.

³ https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/resources/facts_stats.htm

⁴ https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/ORDOT-3dc6739?wgt_ref=ORDOT_WIDGET_8



saving lives on the roadways.⁵ Another study found that specifically used in work zones reduce average speeds to at or below the posted lower speed limits, further demonstrating the safety benefits of these essential programs.⁶ Despite this established history and proven track record, Oregon law requires a police officer to be on site for to be used in a work zone. This outdated requirement is not always possible to fulfill due to staffing, limiting where speed enforcement cameras can be most useful. HB 4081 would further utilize this technology by directing the Oregon Department of Transportation to collaborate with the Oregon State Police on a program that operates speed enforcement cameras in work zones on state highways. Eliminating roadway fatalities requires massive, near-term gains in highway safety. We must use every tool at our disposal to prevent crashes.

Thank you for your close attention to this important issue. If you have any questions or if NSC can be of further assistance, please contact Vice President, Government Affairs Zachary Radford at Zachary.Radford@nsc.org or 202-391-0154.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorraine Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lorraine" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Lorraine Martin
CEO
National Safety Council

cc: Joint Committee on Transportation members
Sen. Courtney Neron Misslin

⁵ https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/812257_systemanalysisase.pdf

⁶ <https://apps.ict.illinois.edu/projects/getfile.asp?id=3022>