



April 15, 2019

Co-Chairs Beyer, McKeown and Members of the Joint Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Oregon AFSCME Local 75 in strong support of House Bill 2015 to ensure that every Oregonian can apply for a drivers license.

Oregon AFSCME Council 75 represents some 25,000 workers in Oregon. Most are public employees who work for either the State of Oregon or an Oregon city, county or special district. Oregon AFSCME does represent some private sector employees as well; most of those are employed by non-profit agencies that provide some form of public service. Oregon AFSCME is member-driven.

Our members agree that House Bill 2015 upholds Oregon's values of fairness, looking out for our neighbors, and treating others as we would want to be treated. In Oregon, we believe in welcoming others, including those who may seem different, and building those bridges of understanding.

The ability to drive legally is a core everyday need for many Oregon families as people take their kids to school, commute to work, and take care of family and neighbors in need. Current Oregon law has created barriers to this core need for folks without access to all the required documentation. This exacerbates racial, gender, and economic injustice in our state.

House Bill 2015 will address some of those barriers and make sure that Oregonians who pass a driving test and meet all the requirements required by law, including proof of insurance, can fully participate in our economy and society.

Thank you for your consideration and we strongly urge your yes vote on HB 2015.

Sincerely,

Lamar Wise  
Political Coordinator  
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