

**Lori Stegmann**  
**Multnomah County Commissioner**  
Representing East County, District 4



2/12/2020

House Committee on Judiciary  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Sanchez, Vice Chairs Bynum and Sprenger, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB 4065. This type of legislation significantly benefits my constituents in East Multnomah County and those all around the state who struggle against barriers to find and keep stability in their lives. Any time we can correct something like this that makes it easier for residents to maintain their jobs, get to school, be present for their family activities, and participate in their community it is a good day for Oregonians. In communities where transportation infrastructure is lacking and access to public transit is a challenge, we owe it to our communities to reexamine laws like this and make the needed changes to benefit their lives.

In East Multnomah County, 69% of residents don't live where they work. This means that more than two thirds of residents are commuting outside of their communities to work every day. Without adequate transportation access, residents are forced to choose vehicular travel to make this commute. I am working with our regional partners to increase economic mobility and set the stage for East County to become the next economic engine of our region. Passing HB 4065 is critical to this work as it removes barriers for families to be more economically stable.

In 2017, Multnomah County began offering Legal Services Day, a program to give residents a chance to clear their court records for low-level offenses in exchange for community service hours. That initiative helps remove roadblocks for community members to apply for jobs, attain housing and to obtain or regain their driver's licenses. HB 4065 is complementary to this important work and will have a huge impact for the community that I represent as well as the hundreds of people who have gone through or will go through our Legal Services Day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Stegmann". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Commissioner Lori Stegmann, Multnomah County District 4