

Members of the Senate Committee :

I strongly oppose the HB 4097A , I was present today 02/24/2020 at Salem State Capitol but I was unable to speak due to time limits.

I have 1 example for you to take in consideration : parking enforcement officers are just like us fare enforcement officers. Oregon sworn peace officers are able to occasionally write a parking citation so they should be able to assist us just how they are able to assist parking enforcement officers please. Police officers are not enforcing parking on daily bases but they have the capability to do so, it's the same with our transit police officers they are not enforcing fares unless we have a uncooperative person or special events, they should have the capability to do so. If we lose this support from our transit police officers we become very vulnerable to being assaulted or not cooperated with . Police officers have tools and presence that will deescalate situation that could go wrong.

I witnessed today some folks testifying in support of this bill and all they brought to the table were stories and no facts, pressing the race issue when this has nothing to do with with race.

We have a very Consistent and Predictable way of checking fares to make sure we do not create any thought that someone is being profiled or singled out. We are video recorded at all times checking fares and nobody can deny a video story. As a public agency if there is a concern that someone was targeted because of their race then a complaint can be filed and video will be pulled to show the facts.

Are we going to pass a house bill for not allowing police officers to write speeding tickets if enough people gather together and claim that the speed checks are based on race ? I don't believe so.

I am an immigrant plus minority myself and I noticed in this country people present a race issue whenever they want something to be pushed forward regardless if it doesn't have to do with race. This actions are holding this country back from moving past history of racism.

Please look at this stories from all the angles and use your powerful and knowledgeable judgment in making a decision about this bill. Passing this bill will have a domino effect on the future capability to perform our jobs safely, protect our passengers and ourselves.

Thank you so much
Gabriel Oltean
Trimet Fare Inspector