

I support HB2482 the Equitable Transit Access bill, and the calls that OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon have made concerning this bill. This bill prohibits police officers from acting as fare enforcement, protects individuals who use a name other than what is on their government issued ID, and police officers cannot charge an individual with the crime of interfering with public transit just because they do not have fare. Transit justice means equitable access for all, which includes homeless and extremely low-income people who often times rely on transit. We know that police spend an outsized amount of time dispatching to calls about homeless people. This bill makes good progress in decriminalizing poverty and homelessness by getting cops out of transit.