

Co-Chairs Beyer and Gomberg, members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Aaron Arntson, I'm a member of SEIU Local 503, and I work at the Oregon Department of Transportation, Department of Motor Vehicles in Bend. I have worked for the DMV for about two years. I am here today as a frontline worker to ask your support for our Agency's budget.

At the DMV we process titles for vehicles, inspect out of state vehicles to make sure they are legitimate, give drive tests, and we process drivers licenses for the REAL ID, standard license and permits/cards

DMV generates a substantial amount of revenue for the state. We are a caring and supportive group of workers. We are happy to serve our fellow citizens with their important service needs. On a personal note- my office sees about 275-300 customers every day and we do up to 20 in person drive tests each day as well.

The DMV continues to increase its capacity by opening appointments at an ever-increasing rate and now with drive tests we need to keep the staff gains we received and extend them in order to clear the backlog we are facing. There are still many who are home, and we are running short staffed most days. Morale is pretty frayed, and folks are tired from the strain. We cannot get rid of this backlog without help especially while we are still short staffed due to Covid leaves etc.

A personal note- I have come to work each and every day since this began (no days off, no vacations) I have no little ones at home, so I was happy to help those of my co-workers- I did everything by the book and followed the protocols but I still got sick- extremely sick for weeks and am finally coming back to life. I got sick from my job and while the continuing issues of proper safety equipment that is still needed is not germane to this proceeding; it is still an ongoing issue for all of us who come to work each day.

I'll ask now would any of you want to see 300 customers face to face? WE DO THIS BECAUSE WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE but we need your consideration.

In order to maintain services, increase appointments when staffing is available and most importantly, clear this backlog we ask that you:

Extend the 25 REAL ID Limited Duration positions by 6 months, to December 2021

Extend 42 Limited Duration positions for the implementation of House Bill 2015, Driver's Cards, until December 2021.

Extend an additional 17 Limited Duration positions for the implementation of House Bill 2015 until June of 2022

Thank you for having this hearing and for taking my testimony and giving all of us at the DMV the resources we need to keep doing the peoples work.

Sincerely

Aaron Arntson TSR1 DMV Bend