

Submitter: Mike Herron

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2137

Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

I write in support of HB 2137 regarding the Establishment of a Task Force for the Willamette River Bridge.

With the impending modernization of the Brooks Interchange and the economic development that will bring to Brooks and the region, as well as the opportunity to receive significant federal support for this type of project, now is the ideal time to study and prepare for an additional bridge over the Willamette River that bypasses the congested interchanges and bridges in Salem. This is a regional project that will have a large positive impact on Marion, Polk, and even Yamhill counties economic vitality, as well as contribute to the liveability of Salem and Keizer by creating alternative routes connecting the east and west sides of the Willamette River.

Given the long timelines for projects of this nature, it is imperative that we begin today to meet the needs of our community tomorrow.

Thank you.

Mike Herron