

Submitter: Nick Williams
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2137

Dear Co-Chair McLain, Co-Chair Gorsek and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation. My name is Nick Williams and I am a commercial real estate advisor with SVN Commercial Advisors in Salem. I live in rural Polk County. I support HB 2137 for the following reasons:

- 1) Emergency resiliency. In the event of a disaster, the communities of West Salem, Dallas, Monmouth and Independence would be cut off from emergency services necessary to sustain lives.
- 2) Critical infrastructure (utilities) co-habitate the existing bridges. These necessary services would be disrupted into perpetuity absent effective planning being sought by this bill.
- 3) Transportation infrastructure. Polk County is projected to be the fastest growing county in the State (per Portland State population study). Many of those future inhabitants will be employed in Salem, thus drastically inflating vehicle trips per day.
- 4) Current system is in decay. The current bridges and subsequent feeder systems were not planned to handle their current workload.

Ultimately, this is a regional transportation issue. All of the surrounding municipalities and partners (Keizer, Marion & Polk Counties, Salem-Keizer School Board) are on record as being supportive of this endeavor. Effective planning is a result of sound governance. I encourage you to govern well on this matter. Thank you for your consideration, and your service.