

All Aboard **NORTHWEST**

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Testimony on SB 14 February 28, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 14. I am speaking on behalf of All Aboard Northwest, the passenger rail working group serving the Greater Northwest.

We support this bill, as Oregon and the region need a transportation network that provides safe, reliable, frequent, competitive, and convenient passenger rail services that meet the needs of everyone, including low-income, tribal, and rural communities, people with disabilities (such as myself), locations where transportation alternatives are limited, and the thirty percent of the population that does not drive.

The area to be studied would connect to a statewide and region-wide rail transportation system that can be built relatively quickly and easily on existing infrastructure.

Right now, there is an unprecedented amount of Federal funding available. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law offers \$66 billion in funding for rail. Let's take advantage of this opportunity, and build a passenger rail system serving the whole state and the entire region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Charles Hamilton
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All Aboard Northwest