

March 10, 2023

Submitter: Jody Morrow, Douglas County Oregon Resident

Committee: Join Committee on Transportation

Measure: HB3248

As a resident of Douglas County, Oregon, part of the Southern Oregon Coast I am writing to you today to show my support for HB3248. As an avid OHV enthusiast, I see the financial benefit the OHV industry has on our rural economies. Currently, many other states around the Country allow OHV use on county roads with appropriate safety devices and licensure. These practices in other areas have shown that with appropriate laws and requirements, both traditional cars and OHVs can utilize the same roads safely without issue.

Our rural economies are struggling as we emerge from COVID lockdowns. HB3248 would allow for OHVs to travel from designated recreation areas to businesses and increase revenue, helping rural communities to recover faster. Most tourists come to areas fully equipped to satisfy their needs and are not set up to leave camp easily with a motor vehicle. OHVs would allow them to travel to towns and support local businesses.

In many rural areas we allow golf carts and farm equipment to travel down county roads. I ask, why not an OHV?

Thank you for your consideration.

Jody Morrow