

April 28, 2023

Joint Committee on Transportation

Re: HB 2098 Support

Co-Chairs Frederick, McLain, and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Dairy Farmers Association is the voice for Grade A licensed dairy farms around our state. Our producers are family farmers who support some of our state's most well-known and beloved brands and provide safe, nutritional dairy products to our homes, schools, restaurants and beyond. We represent small dairies, large dairies, organic and traditional producers and other industry partners.

We strongly support the -2 amendment and urge you to pass HB 2098. The Oregon dairy industry relies heavily on transportation and an investment is needed to ensure the future economic viability of our state. This is a great opportunity to maximize federal funds in a bipartisan effort.

Anyone that has traveled over the I-5 bridge into Washington has experienced the congestion issues and understands the need for a timely investment. More than \$70 million worth of freight crosses the bridge every day. The bridge does not meet our current needs, let alone future needs.

Please act now to support the -2 amendment of HB 2098.

Thank you,

Jam' Kepr

Tami Kerr, Executive Director Oregon Dairy Farmers Association