

Submitter: Brandi Lazzarini
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB1572

I am a regular rider of the SMART 1X bus between Wilsonville and Salem for work. I would ride the WES train if it were an option for the commute to Salem. In addition, I know commuters from Portland or Wilsonville to Salem who do not use the commuter bus option because it is slower than they can drive themselves, and they don't use the Amtrak service because the schedule is not frequent enough to align with their needs. The extension of the WES train would increase ridership by making the trip faster than driving, and by providing the frequency of service needed during typical commuter transit hours. Please ensure that the future train's air ventilation and filtration are sufficient for health, including during an airborne viral pandemic, in order to encourage ridership. Thank you for considering my testimony.