

Marie Dodds

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To: Members of the Joint Transportation Committee

**From: Marie Dodds
AAA Oregon/Idaho**

Date: February 11, 2025

**Re: HB 2154 - Testimony in Support –
Making County Safety Corridor Programs Permanent**

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Marie Dodds, and I am here today on behalf of AAA Oregon/Idaho to speak in support of HB 2154, a measure that makes the county safety corridor program permanent. AAA Oregon/Idaho is a local not-for-profit organization serving 770,000 AAA members in Oregon. For more than 100 years, AAA has been an advocate for transportation safety and dedicated to helping travelers with roadside assistance, travel and insurance services, discounts, and additional transportation resources.

The county safety corridor program has proven to be an effective tool in enhancing road safety by implementing targeted measures such as increased enforcement, improved signage, enhanced road design, and public education initiatives. Data from existing safety corridors demonstrates a significant reduction in severe crashes in these designated areas. By making this program permanent, HB 2154 ensures that counties have the continued ability to identify high-risk roadways and implement life-saving interventions.

Oregon continues to face challenges in addressing roadway fatalities and serious injuries, particularly in rural areas where high-speed roadways and limited emergency response resources can exacerbate crash severity. By providing counties with the authority and resources to designate and manage safety corridors, this legislation empowers local jurisdictions to take proactive steps in improving road conditions and promoting safer driving behaviors.

AAA Oregon/Idaho strongly supports evidence-based approaches to traffic safety, and we recognize the county safety corridor program as a valuable tool in achieving the state's Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries. We urge the committee to advance HB 2154 and help make Oregon's roads safer for all users.

Thank you for your time and consideration. AAA Oregon/Idaho stands ready to support the implementation of this program and assist in efforts to educate the public on the importance of roadway safety.