

Submitter: Christopher Burns
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB458

Dear Joint Transportation Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill (SB) 458, known as the Highway 30 Study Bill. This bill seeks to evaluate the current road conditions from Astoria, Oregon, to the Lewis and Clark Bridge leading into Longview, Washington. It aims to identify potential improvements, such as enhanced engineering controls, guard rails, reflectors, and lighting, which could help in reducing accidents.

As an employee of Georgia-Pacific, I rely on Highway 30 for my daily commute. This route is essential not only for me but for many of my colleagues residing in different counties. Unfortunately, Highway 30 is notorious for its hazardous conditions, including numerous curves, blind spots, and narrow lanes.

The safety of Highway 30 is a critical concern, not just for me and my co-workers, but for our entire community. This is a key transportation route. When Highway 30 is closed due to accidents, landslides, or adverse weather conditions, it poses significant safety risks and disrupts local businesses' operations. Alternative routes are often inadequate for heavy traffic or simply nonexistent, making these closures even more impactful.

If we do not address the issues on Highway 30, it will continue to jeopardize community safety and hinder the economic growth of our rural areas. Therefore, I urge you to support SB 458 and ensure that funding is allocated for a comprehensive study of Highway 30.