



**ASTORIA
WARRENTON**
The Spirit of the Columbia

February 11, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
Attn: Joint Transportation Committee
Salem, Oregon

Re: Senate Bil 458 - Support

Dear Joint Transportation Committee Members,

The Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce represents more than 600 businesses, organizations, and institutions in rural Northwest Oregon. The condition of highways and roads leading into and within our communities directly impacts our members, economy, and overall well-being.

We strongly support Senate Bill 458, which seeks to examine the conditions of US Highway 30 from Astoria to the Lewis and Clark Bridge in Longview, Washington. We urge you to allocate funds for a comprehensive study to enhance safety on this crucial corridor.

Highway 30 is a lifeline for our region, serving daily commuters, freight trucks vital to local industries, residents traveling to medical appointments, and students en route to school activities. It is also critical during major storm events, allowing crews to repair the power grid and ensuring the timely delivery of essential supplies to grocery stores and fuel stations. Recent years have seen a concerning increase in accidents, and we believe the study will confirm the growing danger of this stretch. Frequent dark, rainy, and foggy conditions make navigating the curvy road challenging, and improvements such as better lighting, reflectors, and other safety measures are sorely needed.

Thank you for your attention to this critical infrastructure issue affecting the communities of the Lower Columbia Region and North Oregon Coast.

Sincerely,

Regina Willkie, Assistant Director
Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER of COMMERCE