

Submitter: Nathan Berres  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453

I strongly support HB 3453 and I want to implore the Joint Committee on Transportation to consider the statewide benefits this bill can have on our economy, well-being, and environment. Oregon lacks critical public transportation options outside of the Portland-Metro region. HB 3453 starts the process of tackling this issue directly, to connect our cities through a sustainable, efficient transportation option. As someone who is car-free, I have zero options to take public transportation out to many neighboring cities, not even to the city capital of our state.

With this bill, we can start to make Oregon an interconnected state through improving passenger rail and intercity transit service. There is a vital need to improve our transportation sector as climate change becomes ever more significant. I would love to explore the state I have called home throughout my life without the need to go into debt for a car. I would love to have a state that is connected through public transportation and not private vehicles. I would love to see our state take the initiative towards a more sustainable future, so our communities of today can reap the benefits and the communities of tomorrow can appreciate the foresight. I strongly encourage the committee to see the positive impacts HB 3453 can have for our state and I urge you all to vote in support of this bill. Thank you.