

Department of Community Services

Transportation Division



March 10, 2025

Joint Committee On Transportation
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Oppose Senate Bill 94

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, Members of the Joint Committee On Transportation,

Multnomah County opposes Senate Bill 94, which adds a new exemption to ORS 818.030, the statute that exempts certain types of vehicles from meeting required weight limits. Under current law, the maximum allowable weight for a seven-axle vehicle is 80,000 pounds. Some exemptions are made for public service vehicles and special cases where a permit is required. SB 94 proposes to add a new exemption of up to 129,000 pounds, exclusively for the dairy industry.

Ten of Multnomah County's 27 bridges are load restricted. Allowing additional exemptions will increase the wear and tear on these assets, as well as detrimental impacts to rural roads and culverts, which were not designed for the weight and volumes they currently experience. Multnomah County joins the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) in opposing this bill as it will have impacts to counties across the state.

We urge you to support sustainable road and bridge operations, maintenance, safety, and preservation funding to meet the needs of the existing transportation system.

Thank you,

Jon Henrichsen, PE
Transportation Division Director/County Engineer
Multnomah County Transportation Division

Submitted by Tom Powers (503) 348-2021 tom.powers@multco.us

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