

Submitter: Kathy Lincoln  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453  
To: Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation  
Re: House Bill 3453

I urge your support of HB 3453, to establish the Westside Express Service (WES) Authority. A commuter rail line through the Willamette Valley is critically necessary if we are to reduce fossil fuel emissions in our state. In addition, the traffic on I-5 gets worse every year and congestion and crashes cause chaos to those involved and those delayed by highway closures.

I live in Keizer and many of my neighbors, including my daughter, work in Portland. Housing costs are higher in Portland, so it makes economic sense to live in Keizer, Salem, Woodburn and commute to Portland for work. The increasing number of commuters has an impact on road maintenance, greenhouse gas emissions, and the health and lives of those driving so many hours each day.

In the long run, a commuter rail line would save lives, save public funds used for highway maintenance and expansion, and further our objectives to reduce the impact on our climate of so many single occupancy vehicles on the roads.

Please move HB 3453 forward. Thank you.

Kathy Lincoln