

To: Joint Committee on Transportation

From: Jim Gilbert – Owner, Northwoods Nursery

Subject: Please support House Bill 3453

Date: March 11, 2025

Dear Co-chairs Gorsek and McClain and members of the Committee,

I am writing to ask your support for House Bill 3453, which will improve transportation efficiency in the Willamette Valley, reduce vehicle and fossil fuel use and provide a comfortable, safe and rapid method of transport between our major cities.

I just returned from a trip to Europe. Intercity train travel there is far superior to what we currently have available here. The trains are modern, quiet, fast and on time. Station platforms are at the same level as the train car doors, making it easy to board and disembark. Most importantly, the inter-city passenger trains have their own tracks and are not delayed by freight trains, as Amtrak trains are here.

We deserve a modern, efficient system of rail travel between Oregon's biggest cities. Please support passage of House Bill 3453 and put us on that track!

Thank you,

Jim Gilbert
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PS: Please go to www.anoregonstory.com to watch a documentary film I helped make, which tells the amazing story of how Governor Tom McCall and many other farsighted and dedicated Oregonians created our unique land-use planning program.