



“The Voice of Oregon's Wheat Producers Since 1926”

OREGON WHEAT GROWERS LEAGUE

115 SE 8th Street Pendleton, OR 97801 541.276.7330 www.owgl.org

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

The Oregon Wheat Growers League is a nonprofit trade association representing wheat producers across the state. As an organization that works with a commodity often subject to multi-state transportation regulations, we would like to register concern with the provisions of SB 723.

While well-intentioned, the issues identified SB 723 should be dealt with at the national level to ensure continuity of regulations. Were the federal rule to change, the issue of staffing rail cars would go back to collective bargaining. Railroads should not face different regulations in Oregon or Washington versus Idaho or Montana. A patchwork of regulations would disrupt the efficient movement of agricultural products.

Secretary Duffy indicated his support for the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) minimum crew size regulation, specifically the two-person train crew requirement, during his Senate confirmation hearing. Oregon does not need to take action that could lead to a disjointed regulatory structure if the rule changes down the road.

SB 723 is not needed and could reduce efficiencies when products are moved by rail. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A Hoey".

Amanda Hoey
CEO