



## County Court

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April 8, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation  
Oregon State Legislature

Re: Senate Bill 9

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

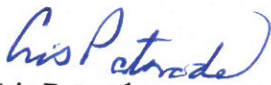
I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 9. This bill prioritizes requests for driving tests for applicants who live in rural communities. This bill demonstrates an understanding of the unique challenges faced by rural areas.

This bill is imperative for our rural residents, as the ability to drive is not only a convenience, but a part of daily life. Driving is synonymous with independence and is usually the only way for residents to access employment, healthcare, and education.

The next nearest DMV to Gilliam County office is located 55 miles away in The Dalles. Having driving tests available in our community is not only more convenient, but reduces the cost associated with obtaining a driver's license elsewhere.

This bill represents equity in access to DMV services in rural Oregon. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Cris Patnode  
Gilliam County Judge