

Submitter: BILL Bradley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1202  
Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Vice-Co-Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis and  
Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1202. I am speaking on behalf of the Amalgamated Transit Union 757, representing thousands of frontline transit workers across Oregon—from the Oregon Coast through the Willamette Valley over to Central Oregon and up from the Rogue Valley, the Portland metro out east through the Columbia Gorge

We support creating a dedicated Oregon Rail and Transit Department, focused solely on improving and coordinating public transportation across the state. A direct report to the Governor could enable bolder, faster decision-making, helping us expand rail service and strengthen intra and intercity bus networks so Oregonians can more easily travel for work, education, recreation, and social enrichment.

Stable funding remains crucial. By combining efforts to raise the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund revenues coupled with a specialized Rail and Transit department, we can build a better system that reduces congestion, cuts emissions, and allows everyone—especially those without other transportation options—to fully participate in community life.

Transit workers see and hear what happens in our communities every day. We transport students to school, help older adults get to medical appointments, and give working families a reliable way to reach their jobs. That is why we respectfully urge the Legislature to include a labor representative on the State Rail and Transit Board. Frontline workers have unique insights into the needs of the most vulnerable, as well as everyday commuters, and can help shape policies that truly serve everyone.

We believe SB 1202 along with increased investment in transit can make Oregon an even more livable place for all. We respectfully request your support.

Sincerely,  
Bill Bradley  
On behalf of the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 757