



TIGARD POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jamey McDonald
Chief of Police

May 11, 2025

Testimony in support of SB 1161
Relating to organ transport vehicles

Honorable Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to you today about **Senate Bill 1161 (SB 1161)** which defines organ transport vehicle designation allowing for the use of lights and sirens when time is of the essence for the preservation of life. The Tigard Police Department supports this program currently and supports **SB 1161** which would direct the Oregon Health Authority to issue a license to drive an organ transport vehicle to those who apply and meet the following criteria:

- Current, former, or retired, police officer, firefighter, or EMS provider
- A driving record in good standing
- Applying under an organ procurement organization, as defined in ORS 97.953

SB 1161 introduces organ transport vehicles into existing ORS related to ambulances and emergency vehicles. Each organ transport vehicle owned or operated by an organ procurement organization must be individually licensed. Vehicles are required to be clearly and identifiably marked on all sides of the vehicle as an organ transport vehicle.

SB 1161 defines oversight by the Oregon Health Authority and outlines a straightforward structure with requirements to ensure accountability of organ transport vehicles and their drivers.

As a Police Chief, I support the organ donor program and recognize how important prompt and timely response for the procurement and delivery of organs is in the effort to save the lives of fellow Oregonians. **I support SB 1161, and I urge you too as well.**

Sincerely,

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

Jamey McDonald
Chief of Police, Tigard Police Department