



JACKSON COUNTY

Roads

**Roads and Parks
Administration**

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Director

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Senate Committee on Transportation
Chair, Senator Chris Gorsek
Vice-Chair, Senator Suzanne Weber

RE: SB 1543 Testimony

Chair Gorsek, Vice-Chair Weber, Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express Jackson County's opposition to Senate Bill 1543. This bill changes the composition of the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC), making two legislators mandatory non-voting members and requiring one position to be representative of a mode of travel other than motor vehicles.

If we have learned anything through the past 24 months of transportation funding efforts, it is that Oregonian's want their roads in good condition, maintenance first before other priorities, and they want transportation funding managed wisely.

Membership should represent the mode of travel used most widely by Oregonians and the mode that funds the maintenance of Oregon's highways. Now is not the time to place specific user group priorities ahead of others and lose sight of the mission; keeping our paved surfaces and bridges in good condition for generations to come.

The addition of two non-voting legislative members adds unnecessary cost to the OTC and increases bureaucracy, which Oregonian's have loudly spoken out against.

For these reasons, Jackson County opposes SB 1543.

Sincerely,

Steve Lambert
Director