

Submitter: Carla McQuillan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4085

I am in support of this legislation for several reasons.

I am blind. Transportation is one of the biggest obstacles I face when making my way through the world. Reliable transportation, particularly in smaller communities such as my home town of Florence, is often only available during limited hours of the day, and limited days of the week. I believe that autonomous vehicles would broaden my options in many ways.

I also know that, despite the tireless efforts of the National Federation of the Blind, there is still discrimination against blind people using ride share services. Guide dog users, and even people with white canes are often denied entrance into ride share vehicles, or the drivers just cancel the ride when they see us.

I have never driven a car, but have often felt that I am unsafe when traveling in a car with others because of the reckless manner in which they drive. I believe I would be safer and more comfortable in a vehicle that does not experience the same distractions as a human driver.

Finally, one day, I would like the opportunity to be able to drive a car myself. I seriously dislike the fact that I am dependent on others for my travel needs. I think that most people who drive do not even consider what it would be like to be forever dependent on others for transportation. I do not think this is uncaring of them, I just don't think most people give it a second thought. I believe the passage of this bill would be a step closer to my travel independence.

Please try to see things from our perspective, and vote YES on HN 4085.

Thank you for your service to Oregon.

Sincerely,
Carla McQuillan
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