



Senator Tim Knopp

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Senator Tim Knopp Pushes for Children Safety Protections *Testified on Bill That Allows for Photo Enforcement of School Bus Stop Arm Violations*

Salem, OR – Senator Tim Knopp testified in front of the [Senate Committee on Judiciary](#) in support of his bill to help protect Oregon’s School Children. [Senate Bill 787](#) will allow communities and school districts to opt in to photo enforcement of school bus stop arm violations, similar to how communities that have photo radar or photo red light. The bill contains no mandate on school districts. A 28 state study conducted by the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services found that more than 88,000 vehicles illegally pass 100,000 school buses in just one day.

“We can't put a police car behind every school bus,” Knopp testifies, “and we can't expect school bus drivers to try to get the license plate of every car that blows by as current law states. What we can do is make this tool available to school districts that need it to address this problem as they see fit.”

Senate Bill 787 allows school districts and communities to opt in and address their problem as they decide. Every citation will be reviewed by law enforcement before a citation is issued. The bill does not cost school districts any money to implement.

“I understand that not everyone is a supporter of photo enforcement,” Knopp continues. “That's why this it is voluntary for communities and districts. I think that allowing communities to add this to school buses makes sense. Laws are already on the books to protect children around school loading zones, we’re simply giving a new tool to enforce it.”

Sen. Knopp was previously in the Legislature from 1999 to 2005 for three terms, including one as Oregon House Majority Leader. Tim was elected to his first term in the Oregon State Senate in November 2012. He was appointed to the Education and Workforce Development and Health Care and Human Services committees for the 2013 Legislative Session. Senate District 27 encompasses the Central Oregon communities of Bend, Redmond, Sunriver, and Tumalo.

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Attached:
PDF of Press Release