



Oregon House of Representatives

June 26, 2020

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
Oregon House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation on HB 4210

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

House Bill 4210 should not have been brought up during a special session, especially during a global pandemic and civil unrest. The contents of this bill are admirable and well-meaning, but it deserves the full attention and scrutiny of the legislature during a regular session. Without proper public comments and thorough vetting, this bill has the potential for serious fiscal and public safety ramifications. With guidance from my constituents, stakeholders, and the Justice of the Peace for Linn County, I cannot agree to the contents House Bill 4210 as it stands. This is an attempt to undermine the rule of law and stymie the process of justice. When there is no longer an incentive to pay fines that result from traffic violations, it makes the enforcement of traffic laws unmanageable.

The prospect of license suspension is an effective tool to enforce compliance. While I appreciate and understand the need for people to be able to transport themselves to and from work or to procure groceries, this bill is not ready to be enacted. This is an issue that can wait for 2021's regular session as there are already several constructive middle ground ideas that can be vetted thoroughly in a long session setting. Therefore, my no vote on House Bill 4210 is based on the unpreparedness of this bill to possibly put public safety at risk. There is no reason to dismiss this bill entirely but rather a need for a full session to carefully and thoughtfully evaluate the consequences.

Sincerely,

Shelly Boshart Davis
Oregon House of Representatives | House District 15