



**REPRESENTATIVE BILL POST
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 25**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, January 20,
2016

**Salem Area Chamber works with Rep. Post to Create Transit Funding Bill for 2016
Session**

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, together with Representative Bill Post (R-Keizer) has written HB 4078 for the 2016 legislative session that would help fund Oregon's rural and small metro transit providers. The bill, drafted in a partnership with transit experts, would establish a funding source for grants that would be made available to qualified public transportation providers for both existing operational needs and expansion efforts.

"Connecting a diverse community with employers, schools and businesses is key to a more vibrant Salem and Oregon." Said Nick Williams, Director of Public Affairs with the Salem Chamber. "An equitable and stable way to provide funding for transit needs across the state is critical, and is something the Salem Chamber is honored to be part of. We are 100% committed to seeing this legislation move forward."

To qualify, the provider would be required to submit a plan that would outline how grant funds would be used, the community needs being addressed, and the benefit anticipated. The plan would also require the provider to establish measurable benchmarks of success – achievements that would indicate successful implementation.

"I am happy to begin the process of identifying a stable funding source for our smaller metro and rural transit providers." said Representative Post. "Effective transit service that meets the needs of riders as well as business and service providers is good for Salem and good for the rest of the state, I believe HB 4078 can accomplish this."

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