

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

May 14, 1999 Hearing Room B

01:05 p.m. Tapes 93 - 94

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sen. Marylin Shannon, Chair

Sen. Mae Yih, Vice-Chair

Sen. Susan Castillo

Sen. Gary George

**MEMBER EXCUSED:** Sen. Ted Ferrioli

**STAFF PRESENT:** Megan Palau, Administrator

Gary Roulier, Administrative Support

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:** HB 2071A Public Hearing

HB 3531A Public Hearing

HB 2583A Public Hearing and Work Session

HB 2841A Public Hearing and Work Session

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 93, A		
002	Chair Shannon	Opens the meeting at 1:15 p.m. and opens a public hearing on HB 2071A.
<u>HB 2071A PUBLIC HEARING</u>		

004	Megan Palau	Administrator. Explains the provisions of HB 2071A which authorizes cities to establish demonstration projects using cameras to record drivers failing to obey traffic signals.
020	Troy Costales	Manager, Transportation Safety Division, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ) and testifies in support of HB 2071A. Notes that red light camera enforcement reduces the number of drivers who violate red lights.
042	Kevin Campbell	Oregon Law Enforcement Legislative Committee. Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT B</b> ) and testifies in support of HB 2071A. Notes that the bill has permissive language and does not mandate the use of these devices.
089	Campbell	Emphasizes that communities utilizing photo red light enforcement have seen a decrease in intersection accidents (page 3 of the exhibit).
113	Jarred Clark	Assistant to the Chief of Staff, City of Beaverton. Testifies in support of HB 2071A. Reviews statistics from Beaverton on the increase in the instances of running red lights and the resulting accidents and injuries.

159 Mark Landauer Office of Government Relations, City of Portland. Testifies in support of HB 2071. Notes that the two major complaints in Portland regarding traffic violations are related to speeding and the running of red lights.

188 Chair Shannon Closes the public hearing and opens a public hearing on HB 3531A.

#### **HB 3531A PUBLIC HEARING**

190 Palau Explains the provisions of HB 3531A which changes the appointing authority for the Director of ODOT from the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to the Governor.

200 Rep. Mike Lehman House District 47. Testifies in support of HB 3531A. Notes that the intent is to ensure that ODOT responds directly to the Governor's office.

228 Sen. Castillo Asks about the argument that this would make the position of ODOT Director more political.

240 Rep. Lehman Responds that the ODOT Director is one of the few directors that are not presently appointed by the Governor. Explains that the position would still answer to the OTC with regard to policy. Adds that the Governor also retains the authority to appoint and remove the OTC members.

264	Chair Shannon	Emphasizes that the Senate would still confirm the appointment. Closes the public hearing and opens a work session on HB 3531A.
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**HB 3531A WORK SESSION**

271	Chair Shannon	Closes the work session and reopens a public hearing on HB 2071A.
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**HB 2071A PUBLIC HEARING**

288	Lt. Ed Kirsch	Program Manager, Traffic Division, City of Beaverton Police. Testifies in support of HB 2071A. Comments that approximately 50 percent of the accidents in Beaverton are caused by the running of red lights. Adds that cameras are a cost effective and safe way to deter this activity.
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321	Capt. Patrick Nelson	Traffic Division, City of Portland Bureau of Police. Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT C</b> ) and testifies in support of HB 2071A. Reviews the reduction of violations in cities and states utilizing red light cameras. Notes that drivers will ignore traffic laws until there is a consequence for violations.
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371	David Barenberg	League of Oregon Cities. Testifies in support of HB 2071A. Adds that the use of red light cameras is not the total answer but is part of the solution.
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**TAPE 94, A**

006	Sen. George	Asks about the average cost of installation and whether all the stop lights in Beaverton are coordinated. Asks about the traffic accident increase in Beaverton.
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010	Kirsch	Responds that some of the main thoroughfares are coordinated. Adds that the increase in accidents is due to the increase in traffic volume.
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018	Sen. George	Comments that the introduction of lightrail into Beaverton has not reduced the road congestion.
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026	Chair Shannon	Closes the public hearing and opens a public hearing on HB 2583.
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**HB 2583A PUBLIC HEARING**

032	Rep. Randy Leonard	House District 21. Testifies in support of HB 2583A. Explains that the bill authorizes firefighters to solicit donations on or near highways if firefighters obtain event permits from ODOT.
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066	Bob Livingston	Oregon State Fire Fighters Council. Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT D</b> ) and testifies in support of HB 2583A. Notes that last year the national "Fill the Boot Campaign" raised \$12 million for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
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086	Cal Eddy	Portland Fire Bureau. Testifies in support of HB 2583A.
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093	Sen. Yih	Asks how long the fundraising takes place.
098	Eddy	Responds that it is a nationwide campaign and lasts for the Labor Day weekend.
114	Sen. Yih	Asks if there have been any injuries during the fundraising.
116	Eddy	Responds that he is not aware of any injuries.
119	Doug Tindall	Maintenance Engineer, ODOT. Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT E</b> ) and testifies in support of HB 2583A. Notes that HB 2583 changes the statute prohibiting solicitation on state highways.
135	Chair Shannon	Notes for the record that Ken Armstrong, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, supports HB 2583. Closes the public hearing and opens a work session on HB 2583A.

**HB 2583A WORK SESSION**

141	Sen. George	<b>MOTION: Moves HB 2583A to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.</b>
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**VOTE: 4-0**

**AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.**

**EXCUSED: 1 - Ferrioli**

<b>Chair Shannon</b>	<b>The motion CARRIES.</b>
	<b>SEN. GEORGE will lead discussion on the floor.</b>

150	Chair Shannon	Closes the work session and opens a public hearing on HB 2841A.
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**HB 2841A PUBLIC HEARING**

157	Palau	Explains the provisions of HB 2841A which allows a petition for withdrawal of territory from mass transit district to be filed during the calendar year 2001 and every fifth year thereafter.
166	Rep. Kurt Schrader	House District 23. Testifies in support of HB 2841 and explains that the bill allows certain communities to withdraw from the Tri-Met mass transit district. Explains that Tri-Met has been cutting service to some of the peripheral communities and HB 2841 will allow these communities to develop their own transit services.

200	Bernie Bottomly	Director of Legislative Affairs, Tri-Met. Presents ( <b>EXHIBIT F</b> ) and testifies that Tri-Met does not oppose HB 2841A.
219	Scott Taylor	Mayor, City of Canby. Testifies in support of HB 2841A.
227	Walt Daniels	Council President, City of Canby. Testifies in support of HB 2841A. Reviews transportation issues in Canby to include a growing senior population and development of new industrial areas.
264	Sen. George	Asks what taxes and fees are being paid to Tri-Met.
271	Taylor	Responds that business in Canby pay approximately \$660,000 to Tri-Met.
273	Sen. Yih	Asks if payroll taxes will need to be increased to provide transit services.
278	Taylor	Responds that they anticipate Canby will be able to decrease payroll taxes and increase the level of transit service.
285	Sen. George	Comments that Wilsonville has provided transit services for free.
290	Chair Shannon	Closes the public hearing and opens a work session on HB 2841A.

**HB 2841A WORK SESSION**

294	Sen. George	<b>MOTION: Moves HB 2841A to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.</b>
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**VOTE: 4-0**

**AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye.**

**EXCUSED: 1 - Ferrioli**

**Chair Shannon**

**The motion CARRIES.**

**SEN. SHANNON will lead discussion on the floor.**

306	Chair Shannon	Closes the work session and opens a public hearing on HB 2071A.
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**HB 2071A PUBLIC HEARING**

322	Rob Birchfield	Assistant Traffic Engineer, City of Portland. Explains the technical aspects of the red light cameras. Notes that a series of photographs are taken to show the progress of the vehicle through the intersection. Adds that the cost of a camera is
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approximately \$50,000.

371	Sen. Castillo	Asks if there is any connection between how many citations are issued and payments to the vendors.
380	Birchfield	Answers that some jurisdictions have agreements that are tied to the number of citations. Explains that there will be fixed costs associated with the installation and operation of the system.
399	Sen. Castillo	Asks if there are any concerns about a possible conflict of interest because more citations would result in higher fees.
410	Landauer	Responds that the cameras operate automatically and the vendor payments are tied to the amount of the fine assessed.
414	Sen. George	Asks if the \$50,000 cost includes the installation in the pavement.

**TAPE 93, B**

003	Birchfield	Responds that the installation costs approximately \$25,000. Discusses the total costs of the installation with Sen. George.
011	Landauer	Adds that most installations are leased.
015	Sen. George	Asks about devices being vandalized.
019	Antoinette Sherman	Notes that there have been some cases of vandalization and the vendors now offer bullet-proof casings.
029	Sen. Yih	Asks for the source of funding.
031	Birchfield	Responds that it will depend on the jurisdiction and Portland is working to procure grant money. Notes that the goal is to reach agreement with the vendors to operate on a break even basis.
045	Landauer	Explains the Portland is prohibited from having a municipal court and this creates difficulties in attempts to break even.
053	Sen. Yih	Asks for the source for grant money.
056	Birchfield	Notes that the first source for grant money would be a federal or law enforcement

grant.

060	Chair Shannon	Asks why Portland does not have a municipal court.
063	Landauer	Responds that the Oregon State Statutes prohibit cities of over 300,000 from having municipal courts.
066	Sen. Castillo	Asks how many times these photos are challenged.
071	Birchfield	Answers that the technology is seldom challenged.
080	Sen. George	Asks if license plate covers would defeat the ability to identify vehicles.
085	Birchfield	Responds that they have not found anything that would defeat the technology.
090	Landauer	Adds that license plate vendors attempting to defeat the system have not been successful.
093	Chair Shannon	Asks about nighttime photos.
096	Birchfield	Answers that there is a flash associated with the camera.
103	Clark	Remarks that the City of Beaverton does not operate the system at night.
113	Sen. Yih	States that she would like to see an example of the photos.
120	Chair Shannon	Closes the public hearing and adjourns the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Gary Roulier, Megan Palau,  
Administrative Support Administrator

#### **EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A ñ HB 2071A, written testimony and report, Troy Costales, 7 pp**

**B ñ HB 2071A, written testimony, Kevin Campbell, 3 pp**

**C ñ HB 2071A, written testimony, Patrick Nelson, 6 pp**

**D ñ HB 2583A, written testimony and letters, Bob Livingston, 7 pp**

**E ñ HB 2583A, written testimony, Doug Tindall, 1 p**

**F ñ HB 2841A, written testimony, Bernie Bottomley, 1 p**