

**DATE:** May 7, 2003

**TO:** House Transportation Committee

**FROM:** Troy E. Costales, Manager  
Transportation Safety Division

**SUBJECT:** Senate Bill 661-A

**Introduction**

Senate Bill 661-A allows commercial vehicles to be equipped with amber warning lights and specifies when the lights may be used.

**Discussion**

The Oregon State Police and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) expressed concerns with the original bill and have worked with Senator Charles Starr's office on amendments to the bill eliminating the concerns. SB 661-A specifies when and how the amber warning lights may be used and eliminates the potential authorization of using the lights improperly causing driver confusion.

This bill will also clear up the confusion about amber warning lights in roadway and utility work zones.

**Summary**

ODOT believes the bill as amended eliminates our concerns about misuse of amber warning lights by commercial vehicles and gives the needed direction for the proper use of the lights.