May 4, 2017

Oregon Progressive Party Position on Bill at 2017 Session of Oregon Legislature:

OREGON PROGRESSIVE PARTY

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HB 2745: Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party supports this bill, which authorizes certain intergovernmental entities created to operate, maintain, repair and modernize nonrail transportation facilities to impose property taxes in support of those purposes, or issue general obligation bonds supported by property tax revenues, if entity obtains approval of governing bodies of affected cities and counties in entity territory. It also requires that the imposition of taxes be approved by voters "in each zone in which taxes are to be imposed."

In effect, the bill allows the Central Oregon area to create a transit district to provide non-rail transit services, if it receives voter approval.

We wonder why the bill prohibits any use of rails, which may be the most efficient means for rapid transit between Bend, Redmond, and Prineville, for example.

Oregon Progressive Party

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