

Submitter: Francisco Gadea

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2098

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement, right now. I support the forthcoming -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with explicit pro-labor provisions, finance guardrails, and major investments in mass transit.

I support replacing the bridge but I am disappointed that cheaper options, like a tunnel under the river or a lift-bridge were not considered. I am concerned what the cost of the project will be in the end. I am also concerned that the current plan will increase traffic while we are having a climate emergency and should be looking at ways to have less traffic not more.