

Submitter: Harry Disney

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.

There are several glaring deficiencies in the current Interstate Bridge Replacement proposal. This isn't good for OR (it mostly benefits WA residents avoiding taxes), it doesn't represent OR values (2 new massive freeway interchanges? While others state highways suffer from neglect?). It will be a noisy/awful bridge for bikers and pedestrians. Wouldn't it be better to build something we're proud of that also represents the future: a walkable/bikeable urban area where everyone can afford to get around the city?