

Submitter: Joel Statz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2098

I support replacing this bridge, but I oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement. 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.

As always, I'm deeply concerned about what these highway expansions mean for climate concerns, as they will inevitable increase VMT emissions via induced demand. At a time of climate crisis, the state needs to be doing everything in its power to invest in robust public transit, and not increasing subsidies to drivers of private cars and putting more cars on the road.

Thank you.