

Submitter: Vinayaka Thompson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2098

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2 and HB 2098 -4, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes keeping the project to a reasonable scale. I consider the -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) better because it ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with explicit pro-labor provisions, finance guardrails, and major investments in mass transit. Additionally, I feel we have not explored tunneling plans well enough. Because we can avoid most if not all issues with both the coastguard and PDX by going this route allowing more flexibility in the design. Another benefit of this design is it may open up some space on both river banks for new development or parks in the old right of way and also does not require the insane heights that a non-drawbridge design requires. While I know tunnels are not common in this area I think a tunnel more accurately represents both Oregon and Washingtons desires. Also the ramps on the Bridge plan are an eye sore.