

Submitter: Skylar Cruz

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 -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with a right-sized design, explicit pro-labor provisions, financial guardrails, and major investments in mass transit.

As a lifelong citizen of the I5 Oregon/Washington border region, I understand the importance of the bridge replacement. I use that bridge to get to work 4 days a week. I rely on infrastructure to afford my home, my food, and all my basic needs. Still we must ensure the bridge is designed for people. Both the people using the bridge and for the residents who live nearby. The bridge must be usable by drivers, transit, bikers and pedestrians. All are necessary to reduce congestion.

My father works in construction and the work and job opportunities this project brings is vital. We should explicitly be supporting union based construction.