

Submitter: Joseph Doggett
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.

I am calling on Oregon law makers to act responsibly and with integrity. Please prioritize environmental sustainability, public health and the pressing budgetary needs of our region over the wasteful resource-hoarding of the Oregon DOT that has repeatedly failed to create a safe, sustainable transportation system. Lawmakers often have a unique perspective that allows them to make informed decisions, however, in this case, many legislators have been overly-influenced by private interests and incompetent state DOT representatives, and they have lacked the ability to critically appraise proposals. This is the time for legislators to be critical and make the best decisions for present and future Oregonians.