

Submitter: Diego Garibay
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 soon-to-be Portland State University student, something that I care a lot for is the longevity and accessibility to other means of transport. This is supplemented by the fact that I lack convenient means of getting to a store or my school without a car in my hometown (no sidewalks in areas, no bike lanes, poor sightlines, hour long walk). Seeing the bill include all the things mentioned prior, especially the other investments in mass transportation, is something I support greatly. Seeing the potential that lies within the prospect of raised or protected bike lanes, increased rail stops, pedestrianized areas, and a safer, non-expanded freeway is the future I want to see for myself and those like me, those that would rather get from point A to B without a car in a car-ruled world.