

Submitter: Annabelle Valdini  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB2098

My name is Annabelle Valdini, I'm 15 years old, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I support replacing this bridge, but I oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as it is now would make the bridge replacement way too big. I support the -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations from the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project goes smoothly with the right-sized design, clear pro-labor provisions, big investments in mass transit, and methods that would keep ODOT from going over budget. I know that a freeway expansion would mean lots more cars because of induced demand, and more cars would mean much more air pollution. I hate being afraid to go outside in the summertime because of all the air pollution and wildfire smoke caused by climate change, and I know the greenhouse gases released by all the cars would speed up global warming when we really need to be slowing it down. It's unbelievable ODOT wants to spend 7 billion dollars to make the new bridge twice as big, which would just cause more problems. Please, don't spend 7 billion dollars releasing more greenhouse gases and making the climate crisis worse. I support the -3 amendment and oppose 2098 -2, because I want to make sure the new bridge is the right size, supports public transit, helps workers, and doesn't go over budget like most of ODOT's projects. Thank you.