

Submitter: Robert Duvoisin
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.

Several things concern me about HB 2098-2:

—I commute by bicycle and it upsets me to see this much money spent on a mega-freeway expansion when so many needed safety improvements go unmet. Fix the orphan highways in the Portland metro area!

—We are in a climate emergency and the state needs to invest in better local and statewide transit options, not bigger facilities for cars.

— A seismic resistant bridge is needed, but a bridge with 3 lanes in each direction is plenty. We should not increase capacity (think induced demand, think California). Congestion is the pricing! Soon all cars will be electric, they do not pollute more in congested traffic.

—Oregon as over 700 seismically vulnerable bridges, by is ODOT blowing the budget on just one?

—We need passenger rail and better bus service, please support alternatives to driving!