

Submitter: Pete Ready
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

As Oregon legislators and politicians propose a "new" tire sales tax, we can see that they are not inclined to maintain the clear will of Oregonians. Here they have persuaded themselves that they can really "CHARGE!" against the environment and the fossil fuel industries. This is delusional and not new for them. They simply want more tax money that they can use as they please. The tire industry is already taxed in other ways. Selective excise taxes on single products is a throwback to the logic of the King of England who pursued his pet tea tax to his own defeat. Oregonian Democrats are raising costs to consumers by attacking tire and related industries. Do Democrat legislators think this will help construction, logging, transportation and delivery business costs in this state? Of course NOT! Vision-impaired Oregon Democrats will be creating new markets for Oregonians to go elsewhere to make their tire purchases. Will that help Oregon auto, truck, and transportation businesses? No. Though legislators get themselves excited about any new form of taxation to fund the next set of government initiatives and grease the wheels of bureaucracy, this will raise costs for the productive manufacturing, transportation and safety resources. This is a classic short-sighted, single-item taxation strategy that invariably betrays the economy's best interests, undermines the mobility of skilled trades, undercuts public and private transportation and all aspects of commerce in the state of Oregon. Transportation services to and from public education services are already at the point of bankruptcy, and here we have a legislature that wants to raise the cost by adding a SALES TAX in Oregon(!) [a proudly non-sales tax state] for all the new tires needed by all the buses carrying students to and from schools, ball games and other approved activities. Can they justify what this will do to construction companies, logging and natural resource industries? As usual, Democrats are again representing only their own ill-informed and myopic desire for more power and control. Vote it down!