

Submitter: Rebecca Wallis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

To: Oregon Legislative Assembly?Subject: Opposition to HB 3362 – Tire Excise Tax
Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 3362, which proposes an excise tax of 4% on the retail sale of tires in Oregon. This tax is an unnecessary and burdensome overreach that will place an undue financial strain on Oregonians who are already struggling with high living costs.

Unnecessary Financial Burden on Oregon Families

The cost of living in Oregon is already high, with fuel prices, vehicle maintenance, and registration fees increasing year after year. Adding an additional tax on tires will disproportionately impact working families, rural residents, and businesses that rely on transportation. Tires are an essential purchase, not a luxury, and this tax punishes Oregonians for simply maintaining safe and functional vehicles.

Harm to Small Businesses and Local Economies

Many small businesses, particularly in rural areas, depend on affordable vehicle maintenance to stay operational. Farmers, delivery drivers, and tradespeople will see their operating costs increase, leading to higher prices for consumers. Instead of fostering economic growth, this tax will dampen small business success and make Oregon less competitive.

Lack of Transparency and Misallocation of Funds

The revenue from this tax is earmarked for rail transit, tire pollution mitigation, and wildlife crossings, rather than directly benefiting road maintenance or reducing tire costs. Oregonians should not be forced to subsidize rail transit or unrelated environmental programs through an arbitrary tire tax. These funds should be sourced from more appropriate revenue streams, not from an essential consumer good.

Conclusion

HB 3362 is an unjustified tax that will negatively impact Oregon families, small businesses, and local economies. Instead of imposing yet another tax, the legislature should focus on reducing financial burdens on residents and ensuring transparency in how transportation funds are allocated. I urge you to vote NO on HB 3362 and reject this unnecessary tax increase.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wallis