

Submitter: Patrick McHugh
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

I am extremely opposed to this tax being levied on tire purchases. ODOT can't keep our highways up to task because they keep crying about not enough money and not maintaining all the secondary roads. We (the trucking industry) have been pouring money into ODOT for years on end while Oregon funds the purchase of electric vehicles with no way to adequately collect road use tax dollars. We discussed this also at the ODOT roadshow where the only payment is for a slightly elevated annual registration fee.

We currently pay FET on every tire; and an additional tax on tires that doesn't go toward road and highway conditions on the coast (where we are taxed and not supported because we don't have the population, even though visitors increase our population every day) is a waste.

This idea (taxing tires) was touted during the ODOT roadshow as a way to improve ODOT revenue but will disproportionately place a tax burden on the trucking industry. Our tires are more expensive than passenger vehicles (cars and pickups) and the sheer number of tires would put us in a position where we would need to rethink keeping a trucking operation in Oregon.

The people of the coast, where we are very car dependent, currently pay a transit tax out of our payroll and the beneficiaries are the metro areas where they are less car dependent.

No more taxation without some kind of direct benefit.