



March 4, 2025

Co Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 3362.

The Oregon Seed Council is a trade organization that brings together seed farmers, marketers, brokers, researchers, and others involved in the Oregon seed industry from when the seed is planted to when the seed ultimately makes it to the hands of consumers. Through our membership, the Oregon Seed Council represents approximately 1,300 grass, legume, and specialty seed growers in Oregon, and our industry drives employment in many rural areas of the state, employing an estimated 10,000 Oregonians.

I am writing to express the Oregon Seed Council's opposition to HB 3362, which imposes a four percent excise tax on the retail sale of tires.

This punitive measure puts a significant burden on rural communities which rely on ground transportation to move and produce commodities on farms and ultimately through our domestic and export markets.

Farmers are navigating a continued rise in cost of production on slim-to-sometimes-negative margins, and this tax would put a new cost on production at every step of the way.

In addition, at a time when the state is seeking to develop sufficient funding to pass a transportation package and support infrastructure investments to help move goods to market, and move people, this tax does not address challenges needed to fix our transportation system. Instead, HB 3362 would fund rail and wildlife crossings.

We urge you to oppose HB 3362.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Chuinard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Megan Chuinard  
Executive Director  
Oregon Seed Council