

Submitter: Jennifer Brusa
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong opposition to House Bill 3362, which proposes a 4% excise tax on retail sales of new tires in Oregon. While I support efforts to fund rail transit, pollution prevention, and wildlife crossings, this bill unfairly burdens consumers and small businesses while failing to address the root causes of transportation funding issues.

As a business owner in Oregon, I know firsthand how rising costs impact both operations and customers. Many small businesses, including mine, rely on vehicles for deliveries, transportation, and daily operations. A tax on new tires will increase overhead expenses, which will inevitably lead to higher costs for consumers. Small businesses are already facing economic pressures from inflation, labor costs, and supply chain disruptions—adding another tax only makes it harder to stay competitive.

Furthermore, this tax will disproportionately hurt working-class Oregonians, particularly those in rural areas where personal vehicles are a necessity. Reliable transportation is essential for both businesses and individuals, and making it more expensive through additional taxes is not a fair or sustainable solution.

Rather than imposing another tax on essential goods, I urge lawmakers to explore alternative funding methods that do not place an undue financial burden on small businesses and working families. Increased efficiency in existing transportation budgets, reallocating funds from less critical projects, or exploring private-sector partnerships could offer more equitable solutions to achieve the bill's intended goals.

As a business owner and concerned Oregonian, I respectfully ask the committee to vote NO on HB 3362 and consider more balanced approaches to infrastructure funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Jacobson Brusa
Beloved Cheesecakes