

Submitter: Carver Akiteru Oblander
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Carver Akiteru Oblander and I live in Portland, Oregon. I support House Bill 3362. I think this bill is an opportunity to secure sustainable funding for Oregon's transportation infrastructure, while also pricing in the environmental cost of tire pollution into the cost of tires.

When I was a college student at Willamette University, the Amtrak Cascades line was a valuable transportation option for the students like myself, most of whom did not own cars. Creating this new funding source will help sustain passenger rail such as the Cascades line as operating costs (and ridership) increase. This can be a virtuous cycle as needing to take fewer trips by car will save Oregonians their money, and fewer vehicle trips on state roads will reduce maintenance costs. As a bonus, having this line continue to serve Salem helps maintain access to the state capitol for Oregonians.

Additionally, tire pollution is increasingly a concern with the rise of microplastics in our environment, wild animals, and eventually our own bodies. This bill also establishes funding to help mitigate the negative impacts of our tires. As a car owner and driver now myself, I believe it is my personal responsibility (and that of all tire users) to consider that impact in the cost of my tires, and I would be proud to be part of the solution.

I strongly urge your YES vote for House Bill 3362.

Thank you for your time,

Carver Akiteru Oblander