

# NUSBAUM FARMS LLC

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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.

I am a 6<sup>th</sup> generation farmer at Bellfountain, in Southern Benton County. We raise a diversified portfolio of crops which include forage grass and legume seeds, beef cattle, and timber.

I am writing to express my 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.

I urge you to oppose HB 3362.

Thank you for your consideration.



Orin Nusbaum, Member  
Nusbaum Farms LLC