

Submitter: Mike stephenson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

This proposed legislation is both unfair and useless. Presumably it is intended to mitigate “environmental damage” caused by tire wear on public highways. The result is a money grab funded by all consumers to address a concern centered in the Portland metro area (note the location of the two sponsors listed) by taxing ALL Oregonians to sustain a rail transit fund exclusive to that same Metro area who would be the sole beneficiary of any such development. One has only to look at the history of “light rail” proposals for suburbia Portland to see there isn’t wide spread support in that localized area based on cost / benefit analysis.

And what is a “tire pollution program”? I find no definition or such agency any place. It appears these legislators are asking for funding of an agency / program that would serve to confirm or authenticate their own defined premise; that tires are a pollutant that need further regulation. These sort of directives / agencies tend to be self-serving, self-defining and self-sustaining, mostly due to lack of oversight. This appears to be an answer in search of a problem.

IF there are such valid concerns, perhaps it is better to target such requests through the federal HTSA to make said requirements for ALL tire manufacturers (ala studded / winter tires). The rest of the state is tired of paying for Portland’s problems.