

Submitter:

David Martin

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3362

Please DO NOT pass HB 3362. Oregonians are already suffering greatly under the high cost of living. This will only make it harder on people. In the last few years, the cost of food, housing, utilities, transportation, and insurance has gone up much faster than our income. As taxes go up, more people are forced to depend on the government for assistance, resulting in a net loss for the government budget. The projects that HB 3362 intends to fund should be paid by the people who use those services. If we need more light rail, then increase the cost of riding the light rail, to pay for the expansion. Adding another tax to all Oregonians simply drives more people into poverty - hurting the very people this tax intends to help. It is unjust to forcefully take money from everyone in Oregon, just to benefit the people near Portland. You could quickly discover how unpopular this tax is, simply by making it optional. At the time of tire purchase, if everyone was asked if they would like to pay an extra \$40-50 for a set of tires, in order to fund light rail in Portland, I am sure a very high percentage of people would emphatically say "NO." If our government representatives truly represent the majority of the people who vote for them, they will vote "NO" on more taxes.