

March 4, 2025

Joint Committee On Transportation 900 Court St. NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

## RE: Oppose House Bill 3362, a tax on the sales of tires should support a sustainable State Highway Fund

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice-Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, Members of the Joint Committee On Transportation,

The Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES), an affiliate of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), represents Oregon's 36 county public works agencies and road departments across the state. County roads are a critical component of Oregon's integrated road system and are responsible for over 60% of Oregon's non-federal road network, over 32,000 total miles, and 3,400 bridges.

OACES would like to express their gratitude for your efforts to craft a comprehensive transportation funding package. The Joint Committee on Transportation's listening tours, work groups, and surveys have allowed local governments to voice the need for back-to-basics funding for operations and maintenance projects and repairs.

County road officials from across the state prioritize developing revenue sources for a comprehensive funding package that allows ODOT, cities, and counties to meet our historic needs. We are concerned that diverting road-related funding sources to specialized projects outside of the State Highway Fund will complicate the discussion for road and bridge needs, especially with a funding source so integral to the road users and transportation funding as a tax on tires.

County road departments oppose HB 3362 and urge you to focus new vehicle user taxes where they are needed most to support a sustainable State Highway Fund, operations, maintenance, safety, and preservation of the existing transportation system. OACES is grateful to be included in the discussion, we hope to have the opportunity for more in-depth conversations going forward.

Sincerely,

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Mikel Diwan President, Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors Public Works Director, Lincoln County

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