

Submitter: Robert Davis
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

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

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 3362, which would impose a 4% excise tax on the retail sale of most tires. As a forest operator in Oregon, this tax would have a direct and harmful impact on my business, my employees, and the communities we serve.

The logging industry relies heavily on specialized equipment, trucks, and trailers to harvest and transport timber safely and efficiently. This proposed tire tax would significantly increase our operating costs at a time when we are already facing rising fuel prices, labor shortages, and regulatory challenges. Unlike urban businesses, we cannot easily absorb these costs—every additional tax threatens our ability to stay competitive and keep our employees working.

Additionally, rural Oregonians travel farther for work, supplies, and services. The added cost of this tax would disproportionately burden those of us who rely on transportation for our livelihoods. This measure unfairly penalizes industries like ours, which are essential to Oregon's economy and the responsible management of our forests.

I urge you to reject HB 3362 and consider the real-world consequences it would have on small businesses, rural communities, and Oregon's natural resource economy. Thank you for your time and consideration.