

Submitter: Denver Pugh
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Dear Co-Chair Senator Gorsek, Co-Chair Representative McLain, and members of the Transportation Committee,

My name is Denver Pugh and I am a 6th generation farmer in the Shedd area of Linn County. I urge you to oppose HB3362. I know this proposed tax is on the retail sales of all tires with larger tires seeing a larger tax rate. On my farm we have to utilize a lot of large, very expensive tires, to be gentler on our soils and to keep soil compaction and getting stuck out in our fields with large farm equipment to a minimum. With all the current regulations we are already facing with farming and a downturn in the markets of the majority of Oregon's agricultural products, this is just one more expense that will be difficult to try and pay for on items we can not afford to do without. To put it in perspective, the average cost for a tractor tire will range from \$2,500 to 5,500 per tire depending on size. Most tractors are dueled up so they have 4 tires on the rear of the tractor plus the two in the front. So the total cost if I had to replace all 6 tires would average out to be \$24,000. Now I'm not sure what tax you'd put on those size of tires, but as you can see, they are already very expensive so to add another cost would just be pouring salt into the wound.

I encourage you to oppose HB3362 and look for other means of revenue that doesn't affect farmers and other struggling Oregon industries.

Sincerely,

Denver Pugh
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