

Submitter: Britney VanCitters  
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,

My name is Britney VanCitters and I live in SE Portland. I'm writing in support of HB 3362, the Tire Pollution Reduction Act. This bill would create a steady funding mechanism to mitigate impacts of transportation on water quality and fish populations; fund strategic wildlife crossing projects to improve road safety for people and wildlife; and expand rail and transit options that support Oregon's climate and environmental goals.

As tires wear down from typical use, they release particles that wash into streams and rivers, harming fish populations and threatening Oregon's fisheries. Revenue from the tire tax would fund filtration systems and stream restoration projects to intercept and reduce this pollution, protecting vital salmon habitats.

In addition to protecting Oregon's fish populations, HB 3362 would also help protect all wildlife and people in our state. Each year, there are over 7,000 wildlife-vehicle collisions in Oregon; on average, four people die and 521 people are seriously injured in those collisions. This sustained funding would position Oregon to significantly improve the existing wildlife-vehicle collision reduction program; an important step to take at a time of uncertainty regarding the reliability of federal support.

Lastly, the tax revenue would also help fund rail improvements, providing Oregonians with better, more sustainable transportation alternatives. Trains are more efficient than road transport, producing less pollution and decreasing overall tire wear.

Tire Pollution Reduction Act proposes a 4% tax on vehicle tire sales, administered similarly to a past tire tax in Oregon. The tax is estimated to raise approximately \$20M/year, with a modest individual impact of about \$6 per new tire. By reducing toxic runoff, protecting wildlife, and enhancing rail alternatives, this measure supports Oregon's environmental goals, road safety, and future transportation needs. The tire tax is a modest, targeted fee that acknowledges the environmental costs of tire use while ensuring long-term infrastructure funding.

I urge you to vote yes on HB 3362 as part of a broader package of transportation funding mechanisms.

Thank you,  
Britney VanCitters  
SE Portland, 97266