

Submitter: Jacob Strawn
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Jacob Strawn and I live in Portland, Oregon. I support House Bill 3362

This bill is critical to fund cleaner and more sustainable transportation options for Oregonians, such as passenger rail

Increased funds are needed due to the increasing cost of the Amtrak Cascades service

Amtrak Cascades is popular and has broken ridership records in 2023 and 2024. The public likes riding trains.

Trains are safe and welcoming places.

Pollution caused by tire particles containing toxics that harm salmon, and those buying tires would have an opportunity to help fund solutions

If travel alternatives allow someone to get by without a car, they could save over \$10,000 per year on average in avoided fuel, maintenance, depreciation, and insurance costs according to AAA: <https://info.oregon.aaa.com/aaa-annual-cost-of-new-car-ownership-exceeds-10k/>. The lower your family income, the more important this becomes.

Fewer cars on I-5 will save taxpayers roadway construction and maintenance costs.

A tax on tires is about providing choices and opportunities, not forcing people out of their cars.

We are not punishing tire purchases - this is about pricing in unrecognized externalities of a mode of transportation (previously unrecognized cost surrounding damage to aquatic ecosystems as well as environmental harm from tire and car production in this case) and using the revenue raised to support remediation and alternative transit options.

Operating passenger trains on the same tracks as freight trains is an economical use of resources. Improvements benefit both freight movement and passenger travel.

I strongly urge your YES vote for House Bill 3362.

Thank you,
Jacob Strawn