

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

Hello Joint Committee On Transportation,

For the record, my name is Jacob Apenes. I am 26 years old, a lifelong Portlander, and I am writing to share my support for House Bill 3362. I do not own a car. It is too expensive for me to buy and maintain a vehicle. Because of it, my travel through my city is by bike and by bus. Although I am happy with these modes of transport, they are either more dangerous or much slower than a car. On a bike, unsafe bicycle infrastructure increases my risk of injury from a car. With my work being out in Lake Oswego, I spend three hours round trip traveling to and from work each day—compared to just 50 minutes round trip by car.

I would like better public transit service: to help me to get to work quicker, to access Portland easier, and to reach more parts of our beautiful state. With the amount of damage cars do to our environment, public health, and transportation system, implementing small taxes will help heal all of these damages. I've considered buying a car, but with the thousands of dollars it costs to own and maintain a vehicle, it has not been a reasonable thing for me to own. Likewise, a small tax on car tires is a minuscule price increase (maybe \$6 per tire) compared to an incredibly expensive purchase. If someone is considering buying a car, an extra \$24 will not stop them.

Amongst the sea of angry testimony asking you to not tax car tires. Please know that myself and the millions of non-car drivers will thank you when biking is safe and transit is fast and frequent.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,
Jacob