

Submitter: Peter Laciano
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

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

I am writing to strongly support House Bill 3362, to impose a tax on the sale of tires to fund transit, wildlife crossings/collision prevention, and conservation work to mitigate the harm caused by the toxic chemicals in tires.

Amtrak Cascades is receiving record ridership, and yet its financial situation is dire. Costs are increasing and without a new funding source, Oregon will not be able to maintain even the current substandard level of service.

Providing people with options other than driving on a crumbling and congested I-5 is critical for the state's economic future. I live in Portland but was recently offered a job in Salem. The expense and stress of a very long car commute made taking this job infeasible, and the low frequency of Cascades service made commuting via train impossible. If the train ran more frequently and was a viable commuting option, Oregonians would have access to more jobs and services.

I once again urge you to advance and pass House Bill 3362.

Thank you.