

Submitter: Johan Andersen
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 Johan Andersen and I live in Portland, Oregon. I support House Bill 3362.

In the current political climate among the federal government, it's vital to secure funding for vital systems that people rely on at more local levels of policymaking. Amtrak Cascades has been having consistent increases in recordbreaking ridership in 2023 and 2024, as an affordable and reliable option to tie regional cities together. As someone who moved to this part of the country from an area without such infrastructure, lacking an option for rail travel significantly limits what sort of travel was viable for me. With the increasing costs of Amtrak operations in this region, it's important to be able to bolster funding on our own terms.

Furthermore, a tax on new tire sales is not punitive but a reflection of the hidden costs incurred by excessive reliance on motorway use for regional travel. As Amtrak ridership increases, the burden on road maintenance decreases considerably, leading to hidden indirect savings in the long run so long as Amtrak remains a reliable and financially sustainable service in the region.

I strongly urge your YES vote for House Bill 3362.

Thank you, Johan Andersen.