

Submitter:

Brendan Adamczyk

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2749

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important bill. As a recent resident of the Piedmont neighborhood of North Portland, I have driven through the area of this proposed bridge dozens of times and observed the need for a seismically resilient route during a Cascadia event. Moreover, as someone who has worked with counties throughout the state on natural hazard mitigation and evacuation route planning throughout my career, I have seen the risks of leaving an area at risk of being "islanded", or cut off from the surrounding community, due to an earthquake, landslide, or other event. More than 30,000 people reside in this area and hundreds, if not thousands, more would likely be working, shopping, or recreating in St. Johns and other areas within this region depending on when a Cascadia event struck - and all of these individuals would likely be cut off from the rest of Portland, inhibiting emergency response. While the state should not provide the full \$58 million cost of the bridge, providing \$5 million now to kickstart the project would help the City of Portland move forward towards further design and eventually allow them to seek state/federal grants for this project. Please move HB 2749 forward!