

Submitter:

Joshua Middlestadt

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Chair and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business, I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 2025, which proposes significant tax increases to fund transportation initiatives. As a concerned Oregon resident, I believe this bill places an undue financial burden on individuals and businesses already grappling with economic challenges. While I recognize the importance of maintaining and improving Oregon's transportation infrastructure, the proposed tax increases in HB2025 are neither sustainable nor equitable. Many Oregonians, including working families and small business owners, are still recovering from inflationary pressures and rising costs of living. Additional taxes, particularly those tied to transportation, risk further straining household budgets and hindering economic growth. For example, increased fuel or vehicle-related taxes disproportionately impact rural residents who rely on personal vehicles due to limited public transit options. Furthermore, I urge the committee to explore alternative funding mechanisms, such as reallocating existing budget resources or pursuing federal grants, before resorting to new taxes. Transparency and public input are critical to ensure any transportation funding plan is efficient, targeted, and free from wasteful spending. HB2025, as it stands, appears to prioritize revenue generation over innovative, cost-effective solutions. I respectfully request that the committee reject HB2025 in its current form and consider more fiscally responsible approaches to address Oregon's transportation needs. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joshua Middlestadt
Corvallis, Oregon