

Submitter: Patricia Kinkade

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

As a retired Oregonian living on a fixed income, I'm very concerned about House Bill 2025. This bill would significantly raise the gas tax, DMV fees, and even add new taxes on buying vehicles—all of which add up quickly for those of us who are trying to make our retirement savings stretch. Many retirees, especially in rural areas, rely on our vehicles to get to medical appointments, run errands, and stay connected to our communities. It feels unfair to place such a heavy financial burden on those who have already paid into the system for decades.

What's even more troubling is how little public input this bill seems to have had. It hands more power to the governor and spends most of the money on big highway projects, while programs that could truly help people—like safer sidewalks, school crossings, or better local transit—get far less attention. I'm not against investing in transportation, but it needs to be done thoughtfully and fairly. HB 2025 just doesn't reflect the priorities or needs of everyday Oregonians, especially retirees like me.