

Dear Co-Chairs McClain and Gorsek and Members of the Committee, I am writing to express my complete opposition and concern regarding House Bill 2025. My name is Matt Skimina and I am currently a student at Oregon State. I moved to Oregon for school because it was my dream to live here. I've been in this great state for three years now and I haven't had a single regret. Oregon is a very attractive state. Unfortunately, the efforts proposed in this bill make me want to rethink this. The proposed tax increases on gasoline specifically are causing financial uncertainty among myself and my peers. As you all know, being a college student is very difficult for young adults financially. We are already struggling to pay our tuition and keep ourselves well fed as we work hard towards achieving our educational and professional goals. The bottom line is I cannot afford a tax increase. I came to Oregon eager to get an education, stay and start a family, as I help contribute to Oregon's economy by entering into the workforce. Call it my Oregon dream. This bill feels like a dream crusher. A push to use the skills I worked so hard to acquire, somewhere else instead. Somewhere I can actually afford to live and be successful. I plead to the committee that you reject this bill and work to find other solutions that are more fiscally responsible and empower people like me to succeed in this great state. Do not crush my dream. Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Sincerely,

Matt Skimina
Corvallis, Oregon