

Submitter: K Jones
On Behalf Of: Working families
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Good afternoon,

I strongly oppose HB 2025.

I surely hope the committee reviews written testimony with a critical eye and really understands the importance of NOT raising taxes on Oregonians. As a working mom who is not on any public assistance, seeing yet another potential tax increase in several areas such as gas, car sales, fees etc causes stress and concern that our state is continuing to go down the wrong direction. It appears that there's always another tax conversation. We are taxed on our income, we then pay property tax on the money they we were already taxed on and then pay additional tax to put gas in our tank to get to work. The state needs to figure out how to work within its budget and execute on cost savings initiatives in order to improve our roads and transportation. It can be done, the state just needs to be disciplined.

Working families and single individuals who are not on public assistance must work within their budget and if not, no one is bailing them out- they have to figure it out. Why do working class and even those who have worked so hard to have the money they do, continue to bail the state out when they can't figure out how to budget and spend on what's needed? You will continue to tax folks out of our beautiful state and what does that do? It reduces the taxable income that Oregon captures and with that deficit, the remaining Oregonians continue to get less and less of their hard work to get a paycheck.

It should be alarming when we see the national average cost of gas per gallon decrease, yet Oregon is literally status quo. This is primary due to the already high taxes on gas. It is very concerning and then you look at the nation, Oregon has the 4th highest average cost per gallon. Increasing the tax will continue to hurt Oregonians.

The state also needs to do away with the Privilege tax. It is not privilege if you work extremely hard to buy something for yourself. That is grit and long work-days.

I appreciate and would like to sincerely thank the Oregon Republican party continuing to advocate for working families and continuing to demonstrate what it means to be fiscally responsible. The Republican party gives me hope that we can actually turn this State around and avoid countless areas of financial waste.