

Submitter: Andrea Pickett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

As the Executive Director of a shelter serving homeless families, I witness firsthand the crushing financial burdens that transportation costs already place on those who are struggling the most. Many of our residents are working hard to regain stability, secure employment, and provide for their children—yet even now, reliable transportation remains one of their greatest barriers to progress.

This legislation would only make that struggle more difficult. By increasing the cost of owning and operating a vehicle, HB 2025 threatens to push countless low-income individuals and families out of the transportation market entirely. For those living on the margins, even a modest hike in costs can mean the difference between getting to work or losing a job, making a medical appointment or going without care, keeping a child in school or falling further behind.

Moreover, the ripple effects of this bill would be felt far beyond individual households. Increased transportation costs will harm local economies by reducing mobility, limiting workforce participation, and decreasing access to small businesses and essential services—particularly in rural and underserved communities.

Transportation should be a bridge to opportunity, not a barrier. HB 2025 risks deepening the very inequities we should be working to eliminate. I urge lawmakers to consider the real and lasting harm this bill will cause to vulnerable families, working people, and the long-term health of our economy.

Please reject HB 2025—for the sake of equity, compassion, and common sense.