

Submitter: Brianna Wright

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

My name is Brianna, and I live in Ashland, Oregon. I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 2025. With the cost of living already straining Oregonians, this bill would make it even more difficult to get by. Raising gas taxes, registration fees, and payroll taxes will place an unfair burden on working individuals and families. While I am an avid cyclist and in support of alternative transportation options to reduce my monthly gasoline usage/costs and CO2 footprint, our “green” options aren’t ideal in Southern Oregon; our local Greenway bike path is largely unsafe and overrun by transients and individuals openly using drugs, our bike culture is not safe (to the point where I no longer road ride because of road rage and distracted drivers, something infrastructure updates will not change), and our public transportation options are not always convenient, clean, or safe. As such, most of population in southern Oregon commutes in their own private vehicle, and hiking up gas prices and taxes is the last thing we need. We may as well be in California, given how high our gas prices already are! I left California many years ago partly because I was drowning in taxes; I hate to see Oregon—a predominantly rural state with higher rates of poverty in its rural counties—turn into the same type of mismanaged, overtaxed state as California. I urge you to vote no on HB 2025, and instead focus on holding ODOT accountable and making better use of the funding it already has.

Thank you for considering all voices and opinions on this matter.