

Submitter: Robin Green

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

The House Republicans released a plan to address the transportation finance shortfall through reallocation and prioritization of spending projects without raising taxes.

The democrat majority rejected it and is pushing their HB to raise gas taxes, license and registration fees and add new taxes and fees on sale of automobiles on top of adding a mileage tax on EV's.

All of the advertising portayed is directed at showing these taxes are our only option to repair and maintain our highway systems.

Painted as a bitter but necessary pill to swallow, it gives the impression we must allow it to pass, regardless of how difficult it is to balance already stretched budgets of the average Oregonians. There are other options!

NO NEW or increased TAXES!

Hidden taxes are already everywhere. Pennies here and there, adding up yo billions but buried in the cost of good so the average consumer doesn't understand that the merchants are simply a collection agent and pass a large percentage on in taxes. Our legislators need to learn to live within their means as we do. Instead, they push to raise wages, pushing the burden over to the business owners to pay high enough for the public to survive to pay more taxes! This just jeopardizes the financial wellbeing of the businesses creating a catch 22 of raising prices to cover costs or layoffs to remain fiscally responsible.

As a small business owner in the transportation industry, I am all too aware of the amount of taxes the state of Oregon already collects from its constituents.

Yes, the highways and streets must be maintained. Yes wildlife crossings are nice.

Yes street lights and safety devices are important. But like all of us, our legislators need to prioritize and choose the MOST important items to address, adding things off the wishlist list as the funds can be made available within the existing budgetary framework. **NO NEW TAXES. NO on HB2025**