

Oregon's proposed HB-2025, a transportation bill laden with a "bevy of increases in taxes and fees," threatens to disproportionately burden already overtaxed Oregonians, particularly families earning \$60,000 annually or less, who navigate a landscape already dense with over 35 distinct state and local levies. Beyond the existing income, property, fuel, and specific excise taxes on items like cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana, this bill proposes a significant hike in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) payroll tax, sharp increases to vehicle registration and licensing fees (e.g., new car registration potentially tripling from \$43 to \$113), a substantial rise in the gas tax, new vehicle transfer taxes, and mandatory road usage charges for electric vehicles that will expand over time. For a family striving to make ends meet, these cumulative additions to an extensive list of existing financial obligations—including income tax, property tax (even if paid indirectly through rent), various vehicle-related charges, and fees for countless services—represent a real cost increase, diminishing their disposable income and further straining household budgets on necessities like commuting and maintaining basic transportation.