

To: Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment

From: Orlando Alvarez, Hispanic Cuban American Small Business Owner in Oregon

Re: Opposition to House Bill 2025 - Testimony for the Public Record

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee,

My name is Orlando Alvarez. I am a Hispanic Cuban American, a small business owner, and a resident of Oregon. I am submitting this written testimony in strong opposition to House Bill 2025.

For those of us who have built our livelihoods here-especially small business owners and working families-this bill is deeply concerning. HB 2025 proposes increases in gas taxes, payroll taxes, and vehicle fees. These added costs will hit the very people who are already stretched thin, especially those of us in the Latino community and those living in rural areas where driving isn't optional.

As a business owner, I've already seen how fragile the economic balance is. Any new burden could mean cutting hours, raising prices, or shutting down altogether. What's more troubling is the complete lack of financial transparency. There's no clear data showing how much this bill will raise, how much it will cost everyday Oregonians, or how those funds will be used.

We all support improving infrastructure-but not at the cost of crushing the very people trying to stay afloat. Real reform must include fiscal responsibility, measurable results, and clear communication with the public.

I respectfully urge you to vote NO on HB 2025 and take this proposal back to the drawing board-this time with the people of Oregon, including small business owners and immigrant communities, at the center of the conversation.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Orlando Alvarez

Small Business Owner

Oregon Resident