

Submitter: Katherine Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Joint Committee Members,

My name is Katherine Brown and I am a longtime Oregon resident living in Boring. I am here to express my strong opposition to House Bill 2025.

I am a mother to 5 children, raising them solely on my husband's single income and we bear the burden of the current high taxes of living in Multnomah county. The cumulative effect of the proposed new transportation tax is concerning. The prospect of additional taxes is very overwhelming to my family financially.

Oregon's gas prices are already over the national average because of gas taxes. Increasing the gas tax is irresponsible to Oregon families who already pay a premium to live where they love. I also have great concern for the proposed "pay by mile EV tax". My family recently purchased an EV to avoid these kinds of costs. EV are zero emissions and buying one makes us good stewards to our environment. These taxes take out all the incentive to owning an EV or for anyone wanting to buy one in the future, and isn't that we want for the state of Oregon? My husband commutes from Boring to Portland each day for work and he figured with the proposed gas tax that he would be paying \$1 a day JUST IN TAXES to drive to work everyday.

I believe that instead of raising gas tax, EV pay by the mile tax, and almost doubling the fees at the DMV, we can focus on better fiscal management of the funds we already have. I believe our leaders can reevaluate our current budgets and find ways to pay for the pressing issues without placing extra burdens on taxpayers. These proposed tax bills are running families out of Oregon - good, hardworking families.

This approach fosters accountability and responsible governance instead of straining community members. Please vote no on HB 2025 and go back to problem solving with the hardworking Oregonians in mind.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Katherine Brown