

Submitter:

Ciarra Larkin

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the tax provisions outlined in Oregon House Bill 2025.

While I understand the need to fund critical infrastructure and services, I believe the proposed taxes in HB 2025 would have several negative consequences for Oregon's families and economy:

Increased Burden on Working Families and Small Businesses

Many Oregonians are already struggling with the rising cost of living. New or increased taxes would only add to their financial burden, reducing disposable income and making it harder for local businesses to stay competitive.

Regressive Effects

Taxes that target consumption—such as vehicle or fuel fees—disproportionately affect low- and middle-income residents. These individuals already spend a significant portion of their income on basic necessities, and further financial strain is neither fair nor sustainable.

Lack of Fiscal Accountability

Before raising taxes, I believe the state should prioritize a thorough review of how existing funds are allocated. Oregon's budget has grown substantially in recent years, yet many public systems remain underperforming. Greater oversight and efficiency should come before new tax burdens.

Negative Impact on Business Climate

Tax increases can discourage investment and job creation. Oregon must remain an attractive place for businesses and entrepreneurs. Additional financial burdens may drive companies to other states with more favorable tax environments.

Better Alternatives Available

I urge you to consider alternative funding solutions, such as public-private partnerships, performance-based budgeting, or voluntary environmental initiatives. Innovation, not taxation, should be the path forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully ask that you oppose HB 2025 or amend it to remove its tax provisions. Oregon deserves thoughtful, balanced policy—not short-term revenue solutions that hurt long-term prosperity.