

Submitter: Paul Carbaugh

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I strongly oppose HB2025 because of the enormous increases of fees and taxes being placed on automotive operations. Increasing fees and taxes on transportation will burden the private sector as well as businesses in Oregon, particularly urban and rural Oregonians. Costs have already been increasing rapidly since the pandemic, food, utilities and insurance to name a few categories. As a retiree this has been difficult to keep up with and you are only going to make it worse with HB 2025.

The only thing I agree with in this bill is the provision in Section 1 to have audits done on ODOT. This should not be done by the state auditor but by an independent company who can audit operations and financials. This is necessary for transparency. Putting the fox in charge of the hen house is not useful or practical.

You can not fix a problem until you know what the problem is. As a retired Army First Sergeant and retired business manager this is what I did, recognize a problem, analyze the problem and correct the problem.

An audit of ODOT needs to be done to find out why they are making financial mistakes and why projects aren't being completed on time and on budget. Until you know these answers you can't fix anything. Increasing transportation fees and taxes to give more money does not fix a problem it only wastes more Oregonians money.

Oppose HB 2025.

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