



Salem Chamber

Convener | Catalyst | Champion

June 25, 2025

Senator Khanh Pham, Co-Chair

Senator Susan McLain, Co-Chair

Senator Bruce Starr, Co-Vice Chair

Representative Shelly Boshart Davis, Co-Vice Chair

Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment

Oregon State Legislature

900 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

RE: Salem Chamber Requesting No Vote on HB 2025

Dear Co-Chair Pham, Co-Chair McLain, Co-Vice Chair Starr, Co-Vice Chair Boshart Davis, and Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment,

Our organization represents over one thousand (1,000+) local businesses and forty-five thousand (45,000) employees in the Salem area. The breadth and diversity of industries represented by our membership demonstrate an intersection of the small businesses that collectively create our state economy. The Salem Chamber supports a robust transportation system but opposes HB 2025.

The Transportation Package as outlined in HB 2025-23 contains over 35 new taxes, tax increases, and fee increases making it the largest tax hike in Oregon history. According to the Legislative Revenue Office, these taxes will generate nearly \$1 billion a year by 2028 and will increase to \$2 billion per year after 2033, raising \$14.6 billion over the next ten years. The A-28 amendment is estimated to raise \$11.7 billion in taxes and fees over the next ten years. The breadth of these taxes will set back the finances of Oregon's most vulnerable, our seniors and low-income citizens, and reduce the economic engagement of all Oregonians with a damaging ripple effect throughout our state economy. Oregon businesses and their employees can afford this magnitude of tax increases. Slower business growth, reduced job opportunities, and higher costs for goods and services will harm all Oregonians.

The bill was introduced near the end of session, on June 9, and since then numerous amendments containing hundreds of pages were introduced for adoption without reasonable time for public comment or for businesses to review their potential impact. This process is concerning, and those concerns were also expressed by elected officials. Please consider voting No on HB 2025 and urge a more transparent and negotiated package in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tom Hoffert, CEO Salem Area Chamber of Commerce

Salem Area Chamber of Commerce

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Mike Herron • President
VIP's Industries Inc.

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Summit Wealth Management

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Chief Executive Officer

Tom Hoffert
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce