

Submitter:

Wally McDermid

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

As a lifelong Oregonian, I am both saddened and deeply concerned by the relentless increase in taxes and fees our state continues to impose. The cost of living has soared, yet wages have not kept pace. For many of us, this growing financial burden has made it increasingly difficult to afford even basic necessities.

Everyday expenses—groceries, utilities, transportation—are rising, largely due to higher taxes and fees. Simple pleasures, like going out to dinner with my wife or family, have become luxuries we now think twice about. The increasing cost of fuel, vehicle registration, road usage charges, payroll taxes, and DMV fees are making Oregon unaffordable for working families, especially those in the low- to middle-income brackets. It feels as if owning a vehicle—a necessity for many—is becoming a privilege for only the wealthy.

As a pastor of a small church, I see firsthand how these economic pressures are affecting our community. Our congregation includes many elderly individuals who already live on fixed incomes and struggle to make ends meet. If HB2025 becomes law, simply buying a used car, filling the tank, or renewing a registration could become out of reach. For these Oregonians, electric vehicles are not a realistic option—nor is the added cost of charging or maintaining one.

Let's be honest: large corporations will not absorb these new taxes and fees. They will pass them down to the consumer—regardless of whether we can afford them.

This legislation risks turning the dream of modest, stable living in Oregon into an impossibility for many. I urge you to consider the real-life impact on the everyday people of our state. Please vote no on HB2025.