

Submitter: Jodi Merritt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I ask that you vote no on HB 2025.

This bill fails to put Oregonians first. This will impact the most marginalized communities and increase the struggle Oregonians are already facing. Our wages are not keeping pace with the ever increasing costs of living. Passing this type of legislation will have residual impacts on the people you serve.

This will increase costs substantially, not just from the gas pump but to the groceries we buy, the clothes or incidentals we need. Housing costs will increase and low income communities will continue to struggle.

You may think that increasing taxes will solve ODOT's problem but it does nothing to streamline services and align costs with outcomes/maintenance and service delivery. This is a management problem not a 'pass more taxes' problem.

Additionally, this bill has a ton of frivolous spending, to include money to study expansive public transit. This bill does not focus on basic needs and services provided by ODOT but includes fluff and unnecessary spending. Further displaying how out of touch this bill truly is.

Please do not pass this bill. Stop making Oregon unaffordable.