

To: Joint Committee On Transportation 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR

Date: June 27, 2025

Sub: Testimony in opposition to the -3 amendment for HB 3402

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazan and Pham and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Eliza Walton. I am the coalition director at OLCV. The Oregon Conservation Network (OCN) is coordinated through the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV). It is a network of not-for-profit organizations throughout Oregon, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy.

One of OLCV's and OCN's priorities this session was to advocate for a transportation package that reflects the needs of Oregonians along with the Move Oregon Forward campaign. Move Oregon Forward and OLCV oppose HB 3402 -3 because it does not meet urgent needs and fails to solve our transportation challenges.

The -3 amendment provides no funding for critical areas such as as public transit, safety improvements, rail, wildlife crossings, or maintenance at the city and county levels. It also leaves out essential investments in transit-related jobs. Simply put, HB 3402 -3 falls short of the basic standard for a transportation package that serves all Oregonians.

While we recognize the importance of maintaining key positions at ODOT, we cannot ignore the needs of those working in cities, counties, and transit agencies. A truly functional and equitable transportation system requires investment across all levels and sectors.

Public transit remains a lifeline for frontline communities who rely on it to access work, school, and healthcare. Failing to fund transit services means fewer jobs, fewer routes, and leaves behind the one-third of Oregonians who either cannot or do not drive.

Additionally, this amendment fails to allocate funding for vital safety improvements needed to protect pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers—particularly in historically underserved communities. These investments are not optional; they are urgently needed to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries across our state.

Lastly, this bill does nothing to move us forward in reducing climate pollution emissions from our transportation sector which accounts for 35% of total emissions in Oregon and we can't afford to delay any longer.

We respectfully urge the Committee to reject the -3 amendment to HB 3402 and instead work to pass a transportation package that prioritizes safety, equity, sustainability, and the long-term needs of Oregon's communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Elza Walton

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