

Testimony to the House Committee On Rules re: HB 3402

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance equitable, innovative, and collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Re: Oregon Environmental Council oppose for HB 3402

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

On behalf of our thousands of members statewide, and as a member of the Move Oregon Forward Campaign, I am writing today to strongly oppose HB 3402. A half-measure bailout for ODOT that wholly neglects the needs of the rest of the system and does NOT deserve your vote.

The Move Oregon Forward coalition, which includes more than 50 organizations statewide representing safety, climate, environmental justice, transit and land use, have been hard at work engaging on Oregon's transportation package for two years, and now there is a midnight effort to whittle down this package to nothing with HB 3402.

This legislature has a crystal clear mandate: in the listening tour, in public hearings, Oregonians have consistently demanded a fair package that sustains transit and safe streets. HB 3402 fails to deliver in every way.

HB 2025 with the -28 amendment is a practical and hard fought compromise that deserves your vote. At yesterday's hearing at the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment, we were clear about our frustrations with the lack of investment in clean, electric vehicles or charging infrastructure, a proven tool to clean our air and reduce climate pollution. We knew that HB 2025 with the -28 amendment was deeply flawed, and fell short of Oregon's legacy as a national leader on the environment. And yet, we know HB 2025 was still making steps in the right direction and urged its passage.

HB 3402 will cost lost jobs in our public transit system, lives lost from a status quo package that does nothing for safer routes for bicyclists and pedestrians, and lost legislature trust and support while failing to solve any of our transportation challenges.

We should pass HB 2025 for what it gets right and gear up for the work ahead to clean up our air and stabilize our environment. Thank you for your consideration in opposing HB 3402

Sincerely,

Kristopher Fortin Grijalva Transportation Program Director **Oregon Environmental Council** kristopherf@oeconline.org