

Submitter:

Lellaniah Adams

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3402

Dear Chair and Members of the House Rules Committee, I am Lellaniah Adams, a resident of Keizer, Marion County, Oregon, submitting this written testimony to urge you to reject House Bill 3402. As a working resident of Keizer, I rely on my car for work because public transit is not a practical option in our community. My 19-year-old daughter also refuses to use public transit due to her experiences, as she does not feel safe, making a car our only viable transportation choice. HB 3402's proposed 3-cent gas tax increase (from 40 to 43 cents per gallon) and hikes to vehicle registration and title fees add an unfair burden to my family's already strained budget. My cost-of-living wage increases are consistently outpaced by Oregon's rising expenses, including gas, housing, and daily necessities. These additional taxes, though presented as modest, make it harder for working families like mine to afford essentials. The last-minute transformation of HB 3402 into a transportation funding bill, introduced days before the session's end on June 29, 2025, undermines transparency and limits public input. Oregonians deserve an open process for evaluating tax proposals, not rushed amendments. The bill's inclusion of a speed bump study feels irrelevant when the real impact is higher costs for families like mine who have no alternative to driving. Public frustration, as seen in posts on X, reflects widespread concern about tax hikes that raise living expenses without clear benefits. Instead of new taxes, I urge the Legislature to prioritize efficient use of existing revenues for critical road maintenance. Keizer residents need solutions that address infrastructure needs without worsening our financial struggles. I respectfully request that you vote no on HB 3402.