

Submitter: Lee Curran
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3402

June 27, 2025

RE: HB 3402 (-3amdt)
To: House Committee on Rules

Chair Bowman, Co-Chairs Pham and Drazan, and members of the Committee-

For the record, my name is Lee Curran and I live in Klamath Falls. I am submitting this testimony today, to express my opposition to HB 3402.

For months, I have been a part of OJTA's and Verde's Transportation Justice Leadership Institute, learning about transportation and hopeful that in sharing our stories we can make a difference shaping this transportation package. Public transit is a lifeline for myself and many frontline communities, including low-income, Black, Indigenous, and disabled Oregonians who depend on it for work, school, or the doctor. Failing to fund it in this package means cuts to transit jobs and positions, fewer options for riders, and ? of Oregonians who can't or don't drive being left behind.

HB 3402 would result in ZERO investments in local cities and counties, transit, safety, rail, wildlife crossings, local maintenance and transit jobs, and so on. We must reject this too little, too late false solution. 3402 is like filling a pothole while the rest of the transportation system is falling into the ocean. It lacks any funding for critical safety improvements that protect people walking, biking, and driving on Oregon's roads. Safety investments are urgently needed to reduce crashes and save lives, especially in communities that have been historically underserved.

In the face of potential cuts by the federal government of SNAP benefits and work requirements to continue receiving these benefits, I implore you to restore funding for public transportation and other critical needs. Here in Klamath County, we have one of the highest rates of food insecurity and our public transportation, Basin Transit Service, is inadequate at best to meet the needs of the populace who are either unable to drive or can not afford car ownership. Any additional cuts in funding will be disastrous to those folks who need accessible, reliable and affordable transportation to survive and meet the needs of program requirements. SNAP benefits are a lifeline for many individuals and families here in Klamath County. I ask you to be bold and oppose HB 3402 that does not support the needs of many communities including the many rural communities in our state.

Gratefully,
Lee Curran