

Submitter: Reinaldo Palma
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

Do not pass this bill! Oregonians are being taxed out of this state. I'm a senior citizen, and life-long resident. Oregon's tax bill is out of control, as is, our utility bills. ODOT has not been transparent nor accountable. How can we trust them with an increase when we have seen wasteful spending on existing projects, such as the Abernathy Bridge, and no progress on new proposed projects where we have spent millions on planning studies.

There is no justification for this increase! There must be crony spending, or reimbursement back to supporters going on someplace. The jobs aren't here and the education isn't here in Oregon. ODOT and Admin penalize rural residents with high tax burdens, yet the majority of the projects are in urban areas with typically higher income citizens. Trying to say we need to pay our fair share doesn't cut it.

The proposed increases to fees and gas taxes are ridiculous. Trying to hide future tax/fee increases by getting them approved now may be a cute political trick, but you are doing NOTHING to prove accountability and transparency.

Why do you think that Oregon residents can continue to pay these high taxes? Did I read correctly that nearly 50% of our taxes go to social services? Do I really believe that this tremendous tax increase is going just to shore up ODOT? Do your administrative due diligence and get Oregon's budget under control. To ask the State Government to operate within its means is laughable, but it's still a legitimate dream.

Don't raise our taxes. At the very least, the elderly and seniors can't afford it. We can't afford housing, we can't afford food, and we certainly can't afford to fund wasteful government agencies.

RM Palma