

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

I am writing to you as a constituent deeply concerned about Governor Kotek's proposed tax hikes to fund ODOT. This plan—raising gas taxes, vehicle fees, payroll taxes, and more—punishes working Oregonians like me while rewarding an agency that has shown time and again it cannot manage the funds it already receives. We are being told these increases are necessary to “stabilize” ODOT, but there is nothing stable about pouring more of our hard-earned money into a system that is fiscally irresponsible. ODOT's priorities have drifted far beyond basic road maintenance, with ballooning budgets tied to politically driven agendas, costly project labor mandates that drive up expenses by 10–20%, and a failure to deliver projects efficiently. For families like mine, these taxes mean over \$1,100 more per year just to get to work and live our lives—while ODOT continues to demand more without accountability. I urge you to stand up for your constituents, demand transparency and reform first, and refuse to authorize any new taxes, fees or tolls until ODOT proves it can do its job responsibly with the money it already has.

Sincerely,
Mariella Cunningham