

Submitter: Louis Chase

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or SB1601
Topic:

My name is Louis Chase and I'm a Portland resident. I oppose the proposed legislation in SB 1601 with -3 amendment.

A major part of my rationale in moving to Oregon from the East Coast was its reputation for sustainable urban development and a multimodal transportation network. I do not have a reason to stay here and keep paying Oregon state taxes long-term if we reallocate the funding that makes passenger rail viable to a highway system that the state never had a plan to maintain. Amtrak Cascades has a million riders a year even with its current dismal service levels and we should be doing everything possible to increase that number. Oregon cannot continue to cut transportation alternatives and access to the over one third of Oregonians who cannot or do not drive to prop up a broken highway system. If it comes down to it, I would prefer the legislature close highways than cut transit.

Please keep our transit funding intact and do not pass this amendment.