

Submitter: Stephen Docy

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1601

I am writing in strong opposition to this bill and specifically the -3 amendment that was proposed. I understand that there is a need for funds to fund highway maintenance but raiding the funds meant for passenger rail and safe routes to school would be a terrible step in the wrong direction for the state of Oregon. Without funding for safe routes people and children will continue to have to travel along unsafe routes and more deaths will continue to pile up as a result. And for passenger rail better methods of public transit is one of the key aspects that will allow us to transition away from cars and their heavy environmental cost. We need to continue investing in better public transit and in safety for pedestrians. Again I understand money is needed for maintenance but perhaps we should consider moving money away from road and highway expansion projects and towards maintenance instead while we wait to pass a more comprehensive transportation package rather than robbing money from already underfunded and much needed programs. So again I ask that you reject the -3 amendment and if that passes reject this bill.