

Oregon Citizens Lobby

A growing statewide collaborative effort by citizens to promote legislative accountability.

Oregon Citizens Lobby supports HB2696 for the following reasons.

This bill encourages ODOT to engage the private sector in the development and operation of highway improvements.

Personal Choice

First, gives greater choice to users of highways by allowing cost beneficial highway improvements through grassroots private efforts. Second, the use of user finance mechanisms based on user voluntary use of the improvement gives users the choice of paying to enjoy improved service or continuing to use existing facilities that are not financed in this way.

Fiscal Responsibility

If the improvements are self-financed by users, the burden on public funds can be lower or even zero.

Limited Government

The bill paves the way for increased influence of citizen choice over State orchestrated transportation solutions.

Local Control

The projects can be grass root in origin, promotion, and finance thereby devolving power from central government to local citizenry.

Free Markets

Pricing of such facilities would be determined by the willingness of users to voluntarily pay for use of the privately operated improvement.

