



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

Testimony in Support of HB 2453-A

House Committee on Revenue

April 11, 2013

Good morning Chair Barnhart, Vice-Chairs Berger and Bailey and members of the committee, I am Marshall Coba representing the American Council of Engineering Companies of Oregon. ACEC Oregon represents more than 110 member firms and 3,500 employees in Oregon. I am here today in support of HB 2453-A.

ACEC Oregon has always advocated for innovative and significant investment in Oregon's infrastructure. Our members are intimately knowledgeable about the failing state of Oregon's and America's transportation system. We understand and appreciate the need for a continued robust funding stream to maintain this infrastructure. To this end, we support HB 2453-A and the implementation of a road usage charge for highly efficient vehicles.

Oregon has a long standing commitment to a policy of cost responsibility that ensures road users pay their fair share. Cost responsibility ensures that all vehicles, either cars or trucks, pay fairly to use the system. In addition, with increasing fuel efficiency standards required by the federal government, Oregon motorists will continue to get greater efficiency and mileage from whatever fuel source they choose. We support HB 2453-A as we believe strongly in the policy of fair and cost responsible taxation and we fully understand the need to continue roadway funding that, at a minimum, keeps up with the needs for maintenance and preservation of our current infrastructure and to invest in quality design and construction for the expansion of our current system as appropriate.

We applaud ODOT's leadership on this issue and are excited about the expanding regional and national discussion on road user taxation fairness for high mileage vehicles.

We thank you for your consideration and we urge your support of HB 2453-A.