

Karen Winkel
Committee Assistant
House Transportation and Economic Development Committee
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

March 6, 2013

Re: HB 2278, Relating to studded tires.

Greetings Chair Read and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning House Bill 2278, Relating to studded tires, requiring a \$10.00 fee collected by the Oregon Department of Transportation upon the sale of each studded snow tires.

While this bill only addresses a fee upon time of sale, it has fewer problems than HB 2277. However, it does have some flaws:

1. Like HB 2277, HB 2278 fails to address the impact of the cost of a fee on the economically disadvantaged, such as seniors and veterans in the poverty range. I encountered too many people, living on fixed incomes, who would struggle to pay for a set of studded snow tires, let alone add the cost of a fee. Many of today's cars and SUV's are front-wheel drive, meaning that they must have a set of four studded snow tires, or a cost of \$40.00, which some cannot afford.
2. HB 2278 fails to address the cost to repair roads under the jurisdiction of county and local government. This bill needs an amendment to allocate a portion of fees collected to other government entities.

I urge the Committee to not give HB 2278 a do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Huddle', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Huddle