

From: Mike Folkestad
To: Rep.PhilBarnhart@state.or.us
Cc: [Bentz Cliff](#); rep.barbarasmithwarner@state.or.us; [Rep Buehler](#); [Rep Hernandez](#); Rep.MarkJohnson@state.or.us; [Rep Marsh](#); Rep.RobNosse@state.or.us; [Rep Smith G](#); [Huffman John](#); [LRO](#); [Barreto Greg and Chris](#); [McLane Mike](#); [Whisnant Gene](#)
Subject: HB 2745 A
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2017 6:10:01 PM
Attachments: [WebPage.pdf](#)

Chair Barnhart and Members:

Do not pass this bill out of committee.

There is little reason to approve this bill. It sounds as if it is a nascent “METRO BILL” for Central Oregon counties. If the legislature adopts this bill, there does not appear to be a way for the voters of the counties to approve this tax. The tax may be imposed by the “approval of governing bodies of affected cities and counties in the entity territory.” This is unacceptable.

We are entering virgin territory of regional transit in Central Oregon. Let’s back off and create it with other resources rather than throwing “more government” at the issue. The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) does not have the internal skills necessary to conceive, build and manage a transportation system. In fact, probably government should stay out of any service that is found in the “Yellow Pages.” Commercial operators could handle the inter-city (hub to hub) operations and local entities could handle the spoke functions (intra-city) if a transportation system is indeed necessary.

Oregon is known as “The Land of the Empire Builders,” but HB 2745 should not be deemed “Manifest Destiny” for Central Oregon.

Regards,

Mike Folkestad
Kate Adams
Jefferson County

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/CommitteeAgenda/HREV/2017-05-22-13-00>