

Please accept this testimony opposing HB 2474. I am a constituent of Rep. Evans and have resided in West Salem since 1989. I am also a retired attorney and worked for more than 30 years at the Oregon Department of Justice. I have considerable experience with election laws and special districts.

There are many policy reasons why this bill is concerning, and I'm sure you will hear from many others making those points. I write to address issues related to the construction of the "special district".

You should be consulting closely with legal counsel concerning a district that gives four counties equal power with unequal populations. I do not believe Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties have equal populations. This violates constitutional requirements for "one person, one vote". And in what local government are state agencies given a vote?

The bill appears to give the bridge district directors the power to impose property taxes, without limit and without a public vote. This is undemocratic. How would these property taxes affect other property taxes under the constitutional limits?

This bill appears to be cobbled together to appease those disappointed by the regular process for infrastructure projects. It is unlawfully constructed, in my opinion, and I suggest the bill be withdrawn.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Lynn Rosik.