A-Bill for an Act

Relating to bridges; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas the Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge, the Bridge of the Gods and Burnside Bridge are key transportation links serving the Oregon economy; and

Whereas those bridges are in need of replacement, modernization and seismic improvement in order to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion and travel times and enhance safety for all users; and

Whereas bridge projects will create numerous job opportunities and stimulate economic growth by attracting new businesses and improving the efficiency of freight movement; and

Whereas state funding for bridge projects enables matching funds and enhances opportunities for future funding, including federal funding; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly commits to support the Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge replacement project through an investment of $20,000,000 in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023.

SECTION 2. The Legislative Assembly commits to support the Bridge of the Gods seismic strengthening project through an investment of $6,000,000 in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023.

SECTION 3. The Legislative Assembly commits to support the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project through an investment of $20,000,000 in the biennium beginning July 1, 2023.

SECTION 3a. Before making any distribution required under section 5 of this 2023 Act, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall enter into an agreement with Multnomah County that obligates Multnomah County to report to the interim Joint Committee on Transportation, during the interim between the 2024 and 2025 regular sessions of
the Legislative Assembly, on the progress of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge project.

SECTION 4. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect July 1, 2023.