

Submitter: NICOLE KEMENA
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2098

Co-Chairs McLain and Frederick, Co- Vice-Chairs Boshart Davis and Boquist, and committee members, thank you for inviting us here today to testify regarding HB 2098-2 and the Interstate Bridge Replacement.

My name is Nicole Kemena.

We urge you to direct ODOT to
Authorize only the amount of bonding required for Oregon and Washington to raise our hands and get in line for federal funding and secure federal funding for light rail in 2023,
Direct ODOT to explore at least one alternative design that would lower costs of the proposed replacement below \$5 billion while preserving critical elements like high-capacity transit and active transportation networks onto and across the bridge, and
Set in place a total project cost limit of \$5 billion to ensure we spend within our means and can fund future job-creating projects that will connect communities across Oregon.
You have the chance to write a new transportation history for Oregon with this project. We hope to be a partner and a resource to you in stewarding a right-sized bridge replacement that will truly serve our region in all the ways we need. Thank you for your time.