

Submitter: Lincoln Thomas
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2098

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement, right now. I support the -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with a right-sized design, explicit pro-labor provisions, financial guardrails, and major investments in mass transit

I'm a 35 year old father who wants our state to take more intentional steps towards reducing carbon emissions, and I'm very much in favor of earthquake resiliency. I know that bikes are a large part of this, partly because the funds don't exist to make all auto bridges earthquake ready. Bikes can better navigate in a post Cascadia landscape, and we need funds to continue to build that infrastructure. The price tag of the current bridge bill is too high, and doesn't leave enough funds for other more needed transportation projects (pot hole repair, sidewalks, bike lanes, etc.)

Please make the fiscally responsible choice and right size this bridge.