

Submitter: Susan Haywood  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB2098

I support HB 2098-3. I support the replacement of the bridge, but oppose HB2098-2 and -4 because these options jeopardize a right-sized bridge being built.

I support the -3 amendment that ensures that the project moves forward with right-sized design, pro-labor provisions, financial guardrails, and major investment in mass transit.

We need a clean bill focused only on this bridge in order to secure immediate federal funding; then, we can start working toward a statewide transportation plan.

We don't need a \$7B expanded bridge that encourages a larger carbon footprint and does not serve a quarter of the population. Let's provide public transportation to bring Vancouver and Portland closer for everyone. Let's reinforce more bridges and make our streets less dangerous instead of bulding one mammoth bridge.

Taking this huge sum from the public fund means short-changing our most pressing problems of homelessness and mental health. Portland is losing population primarily due to these problems, and as a result, increasing the size of the bridge makes even less sense.

ODOT has become fixated on an expensive solution. What about other options? A tunnel? A drawbridge?

Instead of building in a way that maximizes pollution, let's have a leaner, cleaner, more publicly-oriented solution. And let's work to get a clean bill on the bridge passed at last!