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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or LC 2
Topic:

I, and all other Oregonians, are struggling to keep up with all the demands on our finances. Between essential living expenses of rent, utilities, food, gas, there are endless increases in taxes, fees, permits for more and more things. It must stop! Thankfully, the transportation reinvestment plan never passed in the legislative session that concluded in June, but once again I am asking you to NOT to pass this bill that further burdens all of us Oregon citizens. Absolutely no more increases!

In 2017, ODOT had a 10-year, \$5.6-billion road tax package. Now ODOT is claiming they have had inadequate funding for decades? Let's have accountability: Where is all the money going or where has it gone?

How can ODOT be underfunded when:

Oregon has the #10 highest state gas tax in the nation.

The Oregon Gas tax was raised +5% just last year (2024).

Oregon has the Nation's only state wage (transit) tax. The transit tax alone is very harmful to businesses and causes more to close or flee the State.

Oregon has the Nation's only state bike tax.

Oregon Legislature approved I-5 bridge toll this year.

I just heard about a plan that got no consideration in the legislature this last session, which would have not have had any increase and would have returned ODOT to its core function. That's what must be done. ODOT needs to be audited and held accountable. They need to focus on their core mission to build and maintain roads.

When you convene on August 29th, please stand up for your fellow Oregonians and absolutely DO NOT PASS an increase in the gas tax or any fees.

THANK YOU!