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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

'Of the people, by the people and for the people' - those words have been forgotten haven't they. Living where winters can be harsh, travel is hard. We rely on ODOT to do their jobs keeping the roads clear and safe. If we bow down and approve these outrageous tax hikes and extra costs it will never stop. The next time ANY agency or department cannot reconcile their budget and work within its means the same demands and threats will be made. A never ending battle. Meanwhile the citizens are unable to live. How about we try to work this out without the knee jerk reaction of raising fees and taxes? Put a hiring freeze on ODOT jobs for anything above the ones that directly work on the roads. Consolidate the jobs/duties to cover those vacancies above the actual working people on the ground. Move the people installed in the 'fluff' jobs to those jobs that actually need done and directly affect those on the ground. Put a wage freeze on all ODOT employees. After all this has been done, if more is actually needed, then utilize the emergency fund just to the extent it is needed, not just wanted. While this is going on, Governor Kotek, you can start finding a solution to making people & departments/agencies more accountable. YOU have a duty as governor - did you think you'd be able to just sit back and dictate or defer duties? THE BUCK STOPS WITH YOU! Start balancing the budget without asking/demanding more money from the citizens. All the people on "assistance" should and can be able to do something to earn the "assistance". Assistance is a helping hand, a hand up, NOT a hand out. People on 'assistance' should work at least 32 hrs a week to EARN their assistance, anything less then cut the assistance accordingly. Jobs can be found for any/all disabilities. (If you need help with this, I am willing to help for FREE.) As far as illegal aliens, I feel for those wanting a better life here in America but this should be done correctly. Open more immigration agencies to work with those to become legal. If they don't want to become legal then get them out of this country. If they've committed crimes against people/animals/property then they do not deserve to be in this country. YOU, Governor Kotek, have a duty, first and foremost, to the citizens of Oregon not the illegals. Do your duty or step down.