Submitter: Nicole Woods

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation

Funding

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

LC 2

Governor Tina Kotek's proposed tax scheme is outrageous. She wants a massive gas tax hike, huge increases to title and registration fees, and to double the amount taken out of our paychecks. Even worse, she's asking the Legislature to hand over its power to unelected bureaucrats, so our taxes would go up without a single vote. Now, she's called a special session over Labor Day weekend to push this tax increase. If her proposal couldn't pass during the regular session, dragging lawmakers back during a holiday just to squeeze more from Oregon families sends the wrong message.

To make matters worse, the Governor, ODOT, and legislative leaders are pushing a narrative that just isn't true. They claim Oregon spends less than other Western states on roads and bridges, but ODOT already has a \$6.9 billion budget. The real problem isn't a lack of money; it's how the agency spends it. Instead of making maintenance and preservation the top priority, their only solution is always the same: take more from taxpayers. We already pay some of the highest taxes in the country, yet Oregon ranks near the bottom in results. Now the Governor wants billions more! We can't afford it. And clearly, she doesn't care. Oregonians deserve accountability and a change in priorities, not another raid on their wallets!