

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

To whom it may concern,

I am a lifetime Oregonian. As a kid I would classify my family as lower/middle class. When I got married, as most young adults starting out can be rough. Over the years my husband and I have worked very hard for what we have today. With all the tax increases etc it is getting harder and harder to live here. It's sad to see. Over the summer we were fortunate to visit many states, gas prices were less than \$3.00, food was reasonable, eating out was reasonably, hotels such as Best Western \$80 a night... in Oregon we are paying double, close to triple. When visiting family and chatting with locals in other states and telling them where we were from was almost an embarrassment...they asked how we afford things, how do we handle the laws, etc. Tax increases are not the answer when so many are already struggling, our state and economy will suffer even more. I really hope you take a chance to listen to everyone and realize not everyone makes 100k-1 million or more a year.

Thank you for your time.