

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

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to strongly oppose Governor Kotek's proposed tax increases. Families like mine are already struggling under the weight of rising property taxes and the cost of living in Oregon.

Here in Marion County, property taxes have just been raised, and my own bill is \$7,300 a year just to live on my property. On top of that, the Governor's plan would raise the gas tax, double the payroll tax, and increase title and registration fees. These added burdens are not sustainable.

I see the effects every day. My daughter and her husband cannot save for a home of their own. I can't save adequately for retirement. My mom, who lives on SSDI, pays \$600 a month to rent a single room and has to panhandle just to survive. Middle-income Oregonians are slipping into poverty because of policies like this.

Instead of punishing working families with more taxes, why not consider a fairer system — such as a sales tax that distributes the burden more evenly — rather than repeatedly raising property, payroll, and gas taxes?

Oregonians cannot afford this \$5.7 billion tax hike. I urge you to vote NO on these proposals.

Sincerely,
Helen Wilson
Salem, OR