

Submitter: Elena Johnston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation  
Funding

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: LC 2

As a farmer and a small business owner, this bill concerns me greatly. The cost of these "new" taxes, because they are in fact taxes, will be a burden to both businesses and individual households. Will the money raised by these taxes be going toward road repair and winter road maintenance? Or is it going in the coffers to pay for pensions and desk jobs? The safety (whether it's winter or any other season) of folks on the road should be priority. And that means highways in disrepair Need to be maintained. Tillamook County lost its railroad system two decades ago, and we rely solely on freight trucks coming over Hwy 6 and Hwy 101. Both roads are in need of major repairs. Has the issue of wasted money been discussed ? A couple of weeks ago as we were trucking our farm product to Portland we witnessed ODOT spraying the roadside. This week, the fruit of their labor was very apparent. A complete waste of time and money! Some limbs on random trees were dead, the roadside grass was already dead from summer heat. What was the point of that? Wasted time and money on spray when they could have been filling pot.holes. I really have no confidence that more money out of our pockets is going to solve ODOTS budget shortfall. There is no common sense or accountability left in any of our Oregon State departments anymore. Thank you for your time