

Submitter: Robert Fiedler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

Hello,

We are retired and live in a rural farming community. Nearly every process involved in growing, raising, harvesting and shipping the food you consume takes fuel. The low wage employees who harvest your food must drive to work, sometimes many miles and that takes fuel. Why punish those who are a necessity to our state and economy by again raising gas taxes.

We currently have excessive gas taxes at 40cents, some of the highest in the country. Yet there seems to be no accountability in how those taxes are spent by the ODOT. You all just want more and more from us taxpayers. When is enough an enough.

I don't mind paying taxes as long as there is some common sense involved in how they are spent. Oregon is sorely lacking in that regard. How about reviewing the priorities of ODOT before hiking taxes again?

Your committee has yet to convince me there is the need to raise taxes again and again in the future.

Ask yourself, is Oregon as competitive as it can be to maintain and attract business and jobs? Are we able to compete with other states for jobs? Right now the answer seems to be no. So why make us less attractive to the investor, builder and future employer just to keep the ODOT bureaucracy running.

Please do the work you all were elected to do, be good stewards of our tax dollars and listen to all of your legislators ideas. Some sound pretty darn good and would not raise taxes.

Please do not raise our taxes without a better effort.

Thank you all for serving in the Legislature.

Regards

Robert Fiedler

Hermiston resident and very proud of it.