

August 22, 2025

Honorable Senators and Representatives all,

I was born in our beautiful state and reside in a small city in rural, underserved, economically challenged Douglas County. We, out here in the south central part of Oregon, receive no benefit from mass or public transportation since there is none. We rely upon our vehicles to get from place to place. Voting for and putting into effect another new set of taxes onto the backs of those of us already buried in taxes and fees would be a massive error.

Across the state, whether urban or rural, what is being put forward is an enormously and entirely **regressive** added tax burden that encumbers the least able individuals and families. It would deny, at least for a little while, the responsibility for the voters alone to approve tax measures. Playing word games with taxing the public is intellectually dishonest and disingenuous. The voters of Oregon have long memories.

You all know (and we out here all know) that there are sound alternative proposals that have been ignored. It is time to gain control over voter funded departments that have, seemingly, no financial acumen or conscience. There is apparently no meaningful accountability in Salem. Review ODOT's financial history. Throwing more money at a problem is not a solution.

**It is time to quit rewarding failure.** It is past time.

Please take into consideration the least financially able of your constituents who cannot afford this substantial planned burden. Please quit adding to the list of reasons that long-time residents and businesses are leaving our state. The folks that are leaving are far from the least economically disadvantaged, They CAN leave and they take their drive, intelligence and money with them. This has to end.

Respectfully,

Patrick Lynch

Sutherlin, Oregon