Submitter: Elisabeth Switzer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation

Funding

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

LC 2

To the committee meeting on Transportation plan, As an Oregonian i disagree with the plan being submitted due to the extra fee's, taxes, and funds going to this division within the State. I was an executive in a large international company on Oregon and when we needed funds we did a detailed review of the entire company by division to look for areas where cuts can be made, staffing/wages adjusted, waste in the systems or process, to ensure we can stay within our budget. The transportation division needs a complete overhaul and if lay offs are necessary that is a fact of life in many businesses and the state shouldn't be exempt. What are your metrics for success of this division- haven't seen these so providing more funds is not the answer. Make the division live within their current budget and if it can't be done then hire new leaders to make this happen.

Also allowing the Governor to select the lead for this division is an overstep of power and not necessary- what is wrong with today's process? The current Governor isn't listening to the majority of the Oregonians. The current posts and statements she has made are a joke and represents her lack of connectivity to the residents. The layoff announcement for the division after the legislature ended was 'gaslighting' and those who did this should be ashamed. Also state employees should be laid off like any other business if cuts are needed- but let's be real about which ones- usually the front line employees aren't the ones that make too much or are waste in a division.

Many Oregonians are already having a difficult time making ends meet so all these increases will adversely impact those in the state. Feels like the state is getting wealthier and their employees at the expense of the average Oregonian. Make the right decision and not accept this plan- have the transportation division review and optimize the funds they have an available.