

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

Dear Governor Kotek and Members of the Oregon State Legislature,

I am writing to vehemently oppose the special session scheduled for August 29, 2025, which aims to address transportation funding through yet another round of tax and fee increases. This ill-conceived session represents a blatant disregard for the financial hardships faced by Oregon's working families and must be canceled immediately.

At a time when inflation is eroding household budgets and the cost of essentials like food, housing, and energy is skyrocketing, proposing to raise nearly \$791 million through higher gas taxes, vehicle registration fees, and other charges is nothing short of reckless. These increases will hit working families the hardest, forcing them to pay more just to commute to their jobs, take their children to school, or run everyday errands. For low- and middle-income Oregonians who rely on their vehicles for survival, this means choosing between filling up the gas tank or putting food on the table. Small businesses, already struggling under heavy regulatory burdens, will pass these costs onto consumers, further driving up prices and stifling economic recovery.

Rather than piling on more taxes, Oregon must embrace fiscal responsibility and rein in its bloated government. Our state has a spending problem, not a revenue problem. It's time to decrease taxes to put more money back in the pockets of hardworking citizens, slash unnecessary regulations that hinder business growth and innovation, and dramatically reduce the size and scope of state government. By eliminating wasteful programs, streamlining bureaucracy, and prioritizing essential services, we can maintain our transportation infrastructure without punishing families who are already stretched thin.

This special session is a step in the wrong direction, prioritizing government expansion over the well-being of Oregonians. I demand that you stand up for working families by opposing any tax hikes and focusing instead on cutting costs and promoting efficiency. Cancel the session and get to work on real reforms that make Oregon more affordable and prosperous for everyone.

Please consider this my testimony and add it to the public record in opposing any new taxes, fees pre regulations out of this special session.

Sincerely,

Dylan Hively

Clackamas county voter - Canby Oregon