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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

Oregon's economy desperately needs a reduction in taxes and regulation of all kinds at the present time. The transportation budget is critical but must be supported through reallocation of existing funds and reprioritization of existing commitments. Although it may seem less painful to add broad-based taxes (as per the Governor's proposal), in fact such costs have a ripple effect further depressing the state economy. Not only will these taxes further immiserate less privileged citizens, their outsize psychological impact may contribute to future political upheaval or "taxpayer revolt" affecting all areas of the Oregon budget. In evidence of that assertion, I would like to remind the committee that vehicle fees were a principal triggering issue in the recall of California's Governor Gray Davis, leading to the election of that state's most recent Republican governor.