

Submitter: Maxson Sherman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

I am a hard no on the increase in gas and payroll tax and the fee increases in the transportation package. We are being nickel and dimed to death and we have had enough. "Six cents per gallon? That's \$28.80 a year for the average Oregonian, but here in rural Oregon where we drive more miles for jobs, goods and services it can easily be double the average. But the gas tax is a small part of the transportation dramatic price increases. The 100%+ increase in other fees. The increase in the payroll tax, the list goes on and on and in the end it's not "just over two bucks a month" it's real money.

Add to that the things that "are out of our control" and I pay nearly \$1.50 a gallon more for diesel than my daughter pays in Kentucky. Every session it's another tax or fee increase. The CAT tax, Carbon tax, special blend of fuel, vehicle use tax, every session there is another tax or fee increase. By the time you add it all up, one of the highest gas taxes in the nation, all the hidden "sales taxes" the dramatic increases in title and registration fees the increased payroll tax, etc. it's not JUST A FEW DOLLARS HERE AND THERE!

We need policy that rolls back the regulations that has made our fuel some of the most expensive in the nation.

Imagine if our legislators were to enact such policy and it resulted in a reduction in our fuel cost by 50 cents per gallon and if half of that savings went to ODOT...

I agree that we need to better care for our roads and that many dollars are spent on needed things that you may not see. But until the tax and spend mentality in this state that appears to have no end is addressed, I am a hard no on any new taxes or fees!! The average Oregonian has reached the breaking point. Our roads need serious attention and delays will only escalate the cost but until there is a break in our high fuel cost an increase for ODOT, no matter how small, is going to be met with resistance.

We need to live within our budget and address the waste and liberal tax and spend policies that has grown our State budget beyond what the average tax payer can afford!!! WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH, WE ARE TIRED!

Maxson Sherman

Hebo, OR