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

I have been an Oregon resident for almost 46 years. Although I generally stand with progressive policies, and support our governor. The tax increases being proposed have good reason, and I understand that. But this is not the time to doing it.

Oregonians have been struggling to make ends meet as it is with inflation, and the housing crisis that is out of control. The cost of living has skyrocketed the past couple years, but our wages have not. Economically nothing makes sense anymore. We elect officials to make smart decisions that benefits Oregonians, but to be brutally honest, we aren't seeing that at all. How does it make sense to increase these costs for a tax that isn't going to help or lives in any way whatsoever? Our roads in Oregon are some of the best in the nation. I can say that with confidence, as I've been a commercial truck driver for many years. I travel to most of the states in the Western side of our nation, and believe me I've seen the roads. We aren't suffering from failed road ways. But we will be suffering even more with these proposed tax hikes. How can you seriously justify this? Who came up with this idea that this needed to be done with everything else going on?

I think I speak for many Oregonians when I say all we've seen is a failure on the part of those we've elected. We need regulation on landlords from constantly making rent unaffordable by raising those costs every year like clock work. You increase the property taxes, and that turn around and pass that on to the renters. It's bullshit. Taxing fuel prices, when we're struggling to budget out buying fuel just to get to our jobs, or taking our kids to school and appointments. Do we put a little food in the table, or do we put some gas in our cars? Adults having to room up with friends to split housing costs is a normal thing today. Kids living at home until their 30 because they're needed to help pay for the housing that their parents can't afford to keep paying.

Apparently these things aren't being taken seriously, and we're having a hard time taking you seriously. It's because of things like this, I understand why the MAGA movement keeps growing. Do your jobs better, and remember what it is you serve. And start paying attention.