

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

I am a 4th generation farmer in Nyssa, OR. I have been farming here for over 50 years. The State of Oregon continues to do everything you can to drive farmers out of business with all your taxes to take care of the needs of the western side of the state, and you have a total disregard for our needs here on the eastern side. The additional costs to us in all the areas this transportation bill represents is just another case in point. Farm commodity prices are what I was paid in the 1970's! Our expenses to grow a crop of gone up over 50% in the last several years. That does not pencil, and you still want to add more. I live 10 miles from the Idaho border. They are an agriculture friendly state and boy do I wish I could be annexed into that state. Their fuel and labor costs are substantially cheaper. Their farmers are not having to worry every year about having all their trucks and tractors being required to be electric. They do not have a carbon tax looming over their heads. They do not have a CAT tax, and I could go on and on. The American farmers are fighting for their lives right now and many are losing. The majority of the farmers are my age in their 70's and are looking to retire. How is the next generation supposed to make it with cheap crop prices and higher taxes? Where are you going to get your food and how safe will it be to eat coming in unregulated from other countries? We strongly oppose this bill and urge everyone to vote against it and to take care of the constituents are supposed to be representing.