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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

Every Taxpayer in this state lives on a fixed budget. We are not afforded the opportunity to NOT pay our taxes, even if our budget is eaten away by the increased cost of groceries, fuel, electricity, propane, automobile maintenance costs, etc. ODOT needs to reprioritize ITS budget. The top priority of ODOT is keeping taxpayers safe on the roads by maintaining the roads through plowing snow, filling potholes, and repaving. Instead ODOT has made billion-dollar budget blunders, has misguided priorities, runaway costs and unfinished projects. This is NOT THE FAULT of the taxpayers, and the directors at ODOT should be held accountable for these preventable mistakes instead of laying off the workers who keep the taxpayers safe.

Most egregiously, unelected bureaucrats at DAS MUST NOT have the ability adjust gas taxes without legislative consent. We are already heavily burdened with budgeting mistakes and poorly chosen priorities. There is NO WAY we taxpayers can ALSO afford even MORE increases in taxes WITHOUT representation!

Do you not all see that our state is becoming the laughingstock of the whole country in how badly we rank for cost of living and BUSINESSES MOVING OUT OF STATE?

Please take a look at how other states have balanced their budgets, made their policies inviting to businesses, and reduced the burden of taxes on taxpayers. THIS is the example that must be followed instead of continue to increase taxes and create wildly inappropriate regulations that drive businesses away.

What will happen when there are not enough taxpayers left to support the state's out of control spending? What will the state government be left with then?