

Submitter: V G
On Behalf Of: PEOPLE OF OREGON
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic: LC 2

Follow-Up Testimony: To the People of Oregon

I have read through the many comments submitted by Oregonians on LC 2. Retirees, families, rural residents, and workers all said the same thing: we cannot afford more taxes. We are already struggling with housing, healthcare, fuel, and daily expenses.

I stand with you. And I want to add something many don't realize.

Much of the money that funds Oregon programs is not "free" state money. It comes from federal taxpayers—you and me—sent back to Oregon through grants. But those dollars come with strict rules under 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (Uniform Guidance):

?Use funds only for their authorized purpose

[§200.403](<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-E/section-200.403>).

?Measure performance against federal objectives

[§200.301](<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/section-200.301>).

?Maintain strong internal controls [§200.303](<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/section-200.303>).

?Submit to annual audit [§200.500–§200.521](<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-F>).

These are not suggestions—they are binding conditions of every federal award.

That means state leaders already have a duty to comply. If they misuse federal dollars, they break the agreement with taxpayers and risk penalties, repayment, or losing funds altogether.

For state context, even Oregon's own Legislative Fiscal Office warns that federal funds must be tracked for compliance:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lfo>. The Legislative Revenue Office likewise tracks state reliance on federal dollars:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lro>.

Every federal award also carries a Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN). With

it, any Oregonian can look up how much was awarded, which agency received it, and whether subawards were made. Legislators never hand us this information, but it is public.

So when legislators from either or all parties demand new taxes while ignoring compliance with the money they already have, they are not only unfair—they are breaking trust.

To my fellow Oregonians: you are right to be outraged. And here is the key—you already paid once through federal taxes. Don't let them make you pay twice.

Say it together:

Follow the rules with the money you already have.

No new taxes until compliance is proven.

We want our state back.

OR-01, OR-02, OR-03, OR-04, OR-05, OR-06