

Submitter: Debbie Nolan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

I am submitting written testimony against this proposal and all it contains for several reasons. First, I am opposed to allowing ODOT or an other unelected official or department head levy taxes without the voice of Oregonians! "Oregon's Constitution requires a 3/5ths vote to raise taxes. This legislative scheme sidesteps that protection." I was opposed to the original gas tax which was supposed to just be temporary. It is now entrenched and promises to be raised by a whopping 6%. I am opposed to this tax increase. Second, I do not see any improvements in the roads from past road bills supposedly meant to fund the repairs. Little to nothing has been done, outside of resurfacing a few roads here and there in the Portland area. Third, where did that money go and where is the accountability to Oregon taxpayers that roads really are being repaired? What will make this bill any different from the others. Fourth, I am against doubling registration fees and title fee increases on Oregon vehicles. Again where is that money really going? Fifth, I am a senior citizen with a fixed income and will not be able to afford a car with all of these increases. What good are these increases if these bills have the potential for fewer people to be able to afford cars? Sixth, I am very much opposed to the governor taking over the appointment of the ODOT director. We need checks and balances to protect our state from power hungry bureaucrats. Why is payroll tax doubling necessary to fund urban transit? Road usage charges? These feel like desperate measures to fund something else unknown to Oregon taxpayers. These tax and spend policies have got to stop. Every employed individual in Oregon must learn to live within a budget, and our elected officials should be no different. In fact they should set the example of frugality. To be clear, I oppose this proposal of tax and fee increases from the governor and those officials in Salem that will harm families across our state and drive up costs for every Oregonian.