

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

I am opposed to the proposal under consideration for the following reasons:

First, it further undermines the rights of Oregonians by essentially fining them for choosing to be independent of unsafe public transit. Thus, it threatens their rights to free association, a fundamental right of free people.

Second, it significantly increases an existing gas tax that was purported to be TEMPORARY. Again, this proposal is designed to overthrow the right to free association.

Third, it attacks businesses by doubling the existing payroll tax, which is already a hiring deterrent. Thus, it threatens to further destabilize the local economy and increase unemployment.

Fourth, it grants the governor too much power by allowing her to appoint the ODOT director, thereby making him answerable to her alone. All government officials ought to be elected BY THE PEOPLE and thus be answerable to the PEOPLE! Thus, the proposal denies people the right to elect an official who will directly affect their lives.

Finally, the proposal further empowers an unelected bureaucracy by granting them the right to increase gas and truck fees without any vote by the people affected. In other words, it strips the people of their right to vote either for or against the aforementioned tax increases. NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION!

In view of the foregoing, I urge you to vote against the governor's proposal.