

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

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for taking the time to review public testimony, and I know this has been difficult, but Oregon's economy needs a reduction in taxes and regulation of all kinds at the present time. The transportation budget is critical but must be supported through reallocation of existing funds and reprioritization of existing commitments.

Although it may seem easier to add broad-based taxes (as per the Governor's proposal), in fact such costs have a ripple effect further depressing the state economy. Not only will these taxes further immiserate less privileged citizens, their outsized psychological impact may contribute to future political upheaval or "taxpayer revolt" affecting all areas of the Oregon budget. We also need an outside audit of ODOT programs and spending.

However, if we must make some of these increases, I would ask you all to consider a few fixes that would help relieve the burden on folks in Multnomah County in particular:

1. Start a DMV payment program. If you're going to increase registration and title fees, let's make sure people are able to pay them. Instead of local jurisdictions having to continually cite low-income vehicle owners, let's help them by issuing temporary tags as long as monthly payments are being made.
2. Stop or at least cap the amount local jurisdictions are allowed to tack on to all of these fees. Currently Multnomah County residents are paying \$112 and upwards extra to register their vehicles to fund county bridges. This is another reason Multnomah County has a larger percentage of folks without current registration.

Let's help encourage folks to follow the law by making it easier for people to do so and increase Oregon's revenue equitably. Thank you.