

As a proud owner of a hybrid plug in vehicle I feel good about my decision to lower my carbon footprint and fossil fuel emissions. I also understand and support the need for road maintenance funding to be shared equitably and the limitations of gas taxes to accomplish this given the evolution of electric vehicles.

The OreGo program has been repeatedly rejected and to implement this method of collecting revenue in an emergency session thwarts the will of Oregonians. The focus of this method seems to be making sure drivers pay according to actual miles driven. However the cumbersome and labor intensive method employed creates substantial overhead, gives personal information to private companies, and creates more paperwork for individuals, administrative managers and the state. While the gas tax is seamlessly collected by privately owned gas stations and submitted by those companies in an existing well tested system, the electric mileage plan requires the tax to be collected from each individual. The administration of this system employs a whole new private company to track and process each electric car owner individually, overhead that will substantially lower the net proceeds for the state. As cost of living and salaries increase, this cut from revenue will also increase. The existing system of collecting revenue at the time of registration renewal by increased fees for electric and gas efficient vehicles adds no extra labor. It has a set formula which can be adjusted according to the average contribution deemed fair for electric car drivers and does not burden drivers of electric vehicles with inordinate bean counting and frequent payments. My husband and I are retired and will drive much less than our younger counterparts. I would much rather pay more than my actual share of miles driven at routine registration renewals than deal with this new system. On top of the Portland Art tax and the preschool tax for all that can kick in when a house is sold and trap you in quarterly payments, it is time to stop burdening taxpayers with inefficient, Idiosyncratic taxes with inordinate overhead in the interest of some misguided notion of fairness based on dollars alone. It is not fair to burden electric car owners with more paperwork. It is not fair to add overhead paid to a private company that collects personal data when a system exists to collect that revenue without adding overhead.

Please rethink how you collect additional revenue from electric car owners that does not require so much bureaucratic expense and burden on individuals who have made the choice to spend more on their vehicles to protect the environment