

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

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Transportation Bill currently under consideration. Oregon must begin exercising greater fiscal responsibility rather than continually shifting additional financial burdens onto the business community.

Each new cost imposed on businesses has a direct impact on our employees. Increased taxes and fees limit our ability to offer wage increases, reduce the scope of employee benefits, and constrain investments in growth and stability. For example, in Salem alone, the newly enacted transit tax will cost my company an additional \$35,000 annually, without any corresponding increases in revenue to offset that expense. This is not sustainable.

Furthermore, the bill includes provisions for automatic fee increases, even in the event that voters reject them. This approach undermines transparency and accountability in government. It represents the kind of "slippery politics" that erodes public trust and has landed Oregon where it is today.

Oregon's businesses cannot continue to shoulder these costs. I urge you to reject this bill and instead focus on more responsible financial stewardship that supports both the state and the people and businesses who fuel its economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.