

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

hello

I strongly urge all involved to oppose this transportation bill. I live in eastern Oregon and have been stressing the return of this bill. It's safe to say I don't have it as well as my parents did in this life. The last 5 years seems to be the toughest of my 56 years and I see no relief looking forward. My 3 percent cost of living increase the last few years which I am extremely grateful for as I have friends who received less does not seem to match the true cost of living increases. I have less money available at the end of the month than I did 5 years ago. I don't have much money nor do any of my friends or family. I drive a 1985 Chevrolet pickup as that's what I can afford. At one time I had that 1985, a 1980 pickup and dad's 2014 licensed and insured with basic liability. Dad died and left me his 2014 pickup years back. Here a few years back insurance cost rose, my wage has not so I canceled the license and insurance on the 1980 Chevrolet. I need to keep two vehicles licensed and insured for when the old vehicles break down I have one to drive back and forth to work. If I could afford a new vehicle I would but that is not at all possible. I fear with the proposed transportation bill being considered I may be forced to cut costs and have to cancel another vehicle license and insurance. This will not leave me a spare to drive while repairing the broken vehicle.

Times are hard for many here in eastern Oregon. Money is just not as prevalent here as it is elsewhere. This last emergency bill focused on the homeless signed July 17th is going to do little for the homeless as I see it. I fear at one time I also could be faced with homelessness. From my perspective it's real obvious where the problem causing homelessness is. The problem that is forcing many to live on the streets is the cost associated with staying alive. What society has deemed plausible for existence in the past is quickly becoming unattainable for many as I stare at that very dynamic myself. I will never be homeless. When or if I am faced with that I will be questioning that which is life itself. These taxes do nothing to support quality of life for the poor people such as myself. I am not married and have never been. Years past it was very easy to survive on a single income but not anymore. It is mind boggling how quickly that has faded. Years past I had money to spare but times have changed and not for the better of poor people. I am very proud to say I have always worked and been fortunate to have never drawn an unemployment check in my lifetime. Had 2 jobs in my lifetime, my current job I have been at 21 years but longevity is not in helping with my ability to pay bills and stay alive.

You as legislators can help with quality of life not just with this bill but other future bills. Please do not forget the poor working blue collar type such as myself in your decisions. Your choices may seem minor but have a major impact on those such as myself who are trying to get through this life with constant struggles involving your basic needs of life. I am a strong believer in our U.S. Constitution and want to thank everyone involved in reading this long winded testimony. I really do believe in this great state and country one person can make a difference. It would be awesome if that person was myself here representing the poor and struggling people and their quality of life.