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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

I am writing to express my deep concern about the recent tax increases under consideration in Oregon. While I understand the challenges of balancing our state budget, these increases will disproportionately hurt poor and working-class Oregonians, the very people who can least afford higher costs.

At the same time, Oregon continues to pour hundreds of millions of dollars into homelessness services, with spending in the Portland area alone reaching record levels. Unfortunately, despite this enormous investment, homelessness is not improving, and many Oregonians feel that the money is being wasted without real accountability or measurable results.

Tax increases also make Oregon a less attractive place to do business. Companies already struggle with high costs here, and more taxation risks driving both small businesses and larger employers out of the state. This means fewer jobs, less innovation, and an even weaker economic base to support critical services.

Instead of raising taxes yet again, Oregon should prioritize living within its means, reducing waste, and demanding better results from existing programs, especially around homelessness, where taxpayers deserve to see progress after years of escalating spending.

Senators, I urge you to reject these harmful tax increases, focus on accountability in government spending, and work toward policies that make Oregon a place where families, workers, and businesses can thrive.