

My name is Nick I'm 21 years old, and I was born and raised in Salem, Oregon. I'm writing in opposition to LC 2, which could be the end of all Oregonians financial stability.

As a young working person, I already feel the impact of rising costs on my paycheck. LC 2 adds even more financial burdens through higher gas taxes, registration fees, payroll taxes, and new charges on vehicles. These are costs that people my age and families across Oregon simply cannot afford.

I do not believe the state has a funding problem. I believe it has a spending problem. ODOT has a track record of mismanaging money, with project costs that triple or quadruple what was promised. Yet LC 2 gives them more money without real accountability. It does not guarantee the money will even go toward road maintenance, which is what Oregonians actually need.

It's hard not to see LC 2 as more than just a funding plan. It could look like a way for Tina Kotek to push through massive new taxes while the state quietly covers expensive personal upgrades—like the reported \$300,000 backup generator installation at Mahonia Hall, or her proposed tall, black privacy wall around the building as well. If Oregonians are asked to tighten their belts, it shouldn't mean taxpayers are footing the bill for extravagant improvements. That doesn't feel fair to the people, or honest.

Instead of asking us to pay more, the legislature should demand better use of the money already collected. LC 2 is a short-term fix that punishes taxpayers while ignoring the root problem of overspending and misplaced priorities.

I urge you to reject LC 2 and come back with a plan that is honest, transparent, and focused on true maintenance and efficiency—not new taxes or pet projects.

Thank you for your time.

Nicholas Feskens

Jefferson, Oregon