

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

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Oregon State Legislature

I am writing to you as a lifelong Oregonian, a mother of three, and a constituent who is deeply concerned about Governor Kotek's current Transportation Funding plan to increase gas and diesel taxes, registration and title fees, and to nearly double the mandatory per-mile tax for EVs and hybrids, phasing in by 2031.

This plan—tied to HB 2017 ("Keep Oregon Moving"), which has already invested \$5.3 billion in taxes and fees over ten years—represents an unacceptable burden on hardworking Oregonians. Rather than demonstrating responsible management of existing funds, it asks struggling families like mine to shoulder even more costs we simply cannot afford.

My family is already stretched to its limits. I have been out of full-time work since last September despite holding a bachelor's degree and 25 years of professional experience in operations management and administrative roles. My husband, who works for a corporate employer, is currently the sole provider for our household. We do not qualify for food assistance, yet rising costs of living make it increasingly difficult to keep up. Adding another layer of taxes will push families like ours further into hardship.

Oregonians deserve better fiscal stewardship than repeated tax increases. Families across our state are already struggling under the weight of inflation, housing costs, and stagnant wages. To increase these taxes and fees now is to ignore the reality that many of us are fighting just to keep our households afloat.

I strongly urge you to oppose this plan and to instead hold our state accountable for managing the funds it already collects. Oregonians need relief, not another tax hike.

Thank you for your time, service, and for listening to the voices of those you represent. I trust you will stand with working families in opposing this unnecessary and harmful increase.

Respectfully,
Mindy Kloser