

Submitter: Gretchen Bates

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

I am writing in staunch opposition to LC 02, the Governor's Transportation Funding package. This \$5.8 Billion tax and fee fraud is economically damaging to Oregonians and businesses in the state. Worse, it is unnecessary.

People know that one of the reasons Socialism doesn't work is that eventually the government runs out of other people's money. The Oregon Legislature acts as if the solution to any problem is to take more from citizens. A state cannot remain healthy with a government who acts as if the taxpayer and the citizen have bottomless pockets.

Since 2010, the Oregon budget has doubled with no improvement in state services. Stop using us to cover your mismanagement and overspending. Not one Republican should support this LC or any gas tax increase.

In ODOT's own words, "...having the flexibility to use existing funding in new ways can prevent layoffs and service reductions." Perhaps a great deal more than 6% of the gas tax revenues should go to maintenance!

Giving ODOT the power to increase gas taxes without approval from the Legislature is unconstitutional. It goes against both the letter and spirit of the law.

Finally, Democrats you need seriously reconsider this partisan "we will not negotiate" power trip that the Governor seems to be leading. Scrap this LC 2 and adopt the Republican plan.