

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you [today](#) to beg you to please vote no on the special session ODOT tax hike LC2. The people of Oregon cannot afford and do not deserve to have more taxes pushed upon us. When HB 2025 did not pass, mostly due to the public outcry, that should have been the end of this insane push for another tax hike on hard working Oregonians. Sadly, the Governor just couldn't take no for an answer and had to push a special session to get her way and is pushing LC2. We do not have a revenue problem in Oregon, we have a huge spending problem. The amount of waste, and fraud that goes on in Portland, Multnomah County, and at the State level is absolutely insane. For decades this has gone on behind the scenes but for the past few years it is blatantly out in the open. For years tax dollars have been stolen from essential services like public safety, schools, parks, and essential paving of our roads and been spent on personal projects, agendas, and largest of all has been funneled to non profits which then in turn, the non profits make campaign contributions to the candidates that support the funding of said non profit. This is mostly prevalent in Portland, Multnomah County and at the Oregon State legislature due to the Super majority it has. Our roads look like a war zone due to tax dollars which for as long as I have been alive and lived in Portland (48 years) were allocated towards road maintenance being taken for other projects the last 10 years, especially the last 5.

I was born at Emmanuel hospital 48 years ago, grew up in North Portland, in which I attended Holy Redeemer, then James Madison, then PCC to get a couple Associates degrees. I have seen Portland and the State as a whole go from one of the most beautiful in the Country to one that is in a failed state of emergency due to the misappropriation of funds and due to the Super Majority trying to push an agenda based on ideology and feelings instead of running the Cities and State like a business. I am asking you [today](#) to please vote no on LC2 and to start running our beautiful State like the CEO of a business instead of a charity with unlimited handouts. The essential services (police, fire, road paving, teachers, park maintenance, infrastructure) that we the tax payer pay our taxes for need to be fully funded before \$1 is spent on any personal projects. If money that is going to executives, DEI projects (I believe somewhere like \$35 million for DEI is in this transportation Bill) free (tax payer funded) housing for drug addicts and illegal immigrants, free (tax payer funded) health care for drug addicts and illegals, free (tax payer funded) legal aid etc.

Hundreds of billions are spent funneling money to non profits in the name of "compassion to help the homeless". These non profits are getting rich why no help is getting to the people they say they are helping. With the amount of money spent in the last 5 years, you could of bought each homeless person a \$500,000 house. With the legalization of hard drugs (fentanyl) and the free pass for criminals, our streets are flooded with violent drug addicts who do not want help, and the non profits are getting rich off tax payer dollars. This is not ok, and there is no compassion in what is going on, by the legalization of fentanyl and allowing the homeless to do whatever they want in the name of being less fortunate, the leaders of Oregon are allowing these people to kill themselves daily and live in biohazardous conditions while getting away with crime after crime. The amount of children that have died from overdoses is heart breaking and unacceptable and anyone profiting off of this is ethically immoral.

Then we have hundreds of millions spent on the "Man made Climate Crisis". Instead of roads being properly maintained and paved, money is being misappropriated to down size roads from 4 lanes to 2 on major thoroughfares to choke out roads for bike and bus only lanes. In Portland the PBOT director Millicent Williams stated "The only way to stop the man made Climate Crisis is to stop people from driving". The goal is to make driving so difficult and miserable in the hopes that we will one day wake up and ride public transit or ride a bike. It is clear that the people in charge are anti car and they have stated they want to model Portland after Copenhagen. Portland isn't and never will be Copenhagen. And it is not the job of the PBOT director to dictate our means of travel. Her job is to properly maintain the roads in a safe condition so we can travel without hitting crater sized potholes or have to avoid cars swerving in our lanes as they are trying to avoid potholes. They have created so much unnecessary congestion that it is doing the opposite of its intended goal with all of the road dividers and downsizing of the roads. In the name of "Climate Justice" they are increasing pollution by having cars stuck idleing in traffic for hours instead of flowing freely. Instead of misappropriating funds and spending money on bump outs, entire middle lane medians, bike lanes which take up entire lanes of traffic, and cross walk islands every 100 feet (which people still are too lazy to walk to and run across the road) high paid executives, DEI departments, and spent it correctly on what we the taxpayer expect the money to go to which is just the simple paving of the roads, there would be plenty of money to fund ODOT, and PBOT.

We the hard working taxpayers deserve better! The State and Cities are going to fail unless the elected officials stop running the State based on personal ideology and feelings. The

essential services need to be properly funded, the non essential (ideological) projects/ programs need to be cut, the non profits cannot be given any more of our tax dollars ( if people support what the non profits is doing, they can make a donation like it use to be) and the State needs to be run like a successful business and operate on a balanced budge. For over half of my life Portland and Oregon was one of the most beautiful cities and States in the Country, it wasn't until all of this ideology made its way into politics that it began to be run into the ground. Programs such as DEI which was started by companies like Black Rock with the creation of ESG scores have done nothing but waste billions of dollars and have brought back discrimination and racial tensions to a level we have not seen since the 60's. It is literally tearing our State apart. We should be upholding the values of the great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and judge people on the content of their character not the color of their skin.

If we stopped funding all of these costly, ideological, personal agenda projects and spent the hard earned tax payer dollars on what they use to be spent on 40 years ago (road maintenance, police, fire, schools, parks, and infrastructure) there would be plenty of money for the State to properly operate and enough so that tax cuts could be made back to a level that is fair to the taxpayer. Oregon cannot be run like a charity of endless funds in which every time the elected officials want to push more of their projects they make cuts to essential services then tell us there is no money and raise taxes. This is not fair to us, it is unsustainable and if a course correction isn't made, Oregon will fail and the magical pot of money will dry up as businesses will move to a more business friendly state a long with the hardworking tax payer who is barely scrapping by and cannot afford it any more. This is a primary example of why Socialism doesn't work. You cannot give all the hard earned tax payer money away to non profits and other ideological programs while neglecting to fund the essential core services first.

Our State is failing due to misappropriation of funds not a lack of funds. I am begging you [today](#) as someone who was born and raised in North Portland with a single disabled mother to vote "NO" on LC2. I do not want to leave Oregon as it is my home and I love it, but if something doesn't change, and the over taxation and crazy political ideology stops, I will have no choice but to move to a state which values and appreciates it's hard working tax payers and looks at them as more than just another dollar sign to fund handouts, non profits, a endless homeless and drug epidemic where homeless addicts from all over the country have moved here for free housing, and open drug use, while pushing radical ideology, attacking our Constitutional rights, harboring illegal criminals, allowing crime and

lawlessness to run rampant by releasing violent criminals back on the streets, allowing kids and addicts to die unnecessarily from fentanyl, and pushing radical ideology in our schools while trying to take away parents rights. Enough is enough and what has been going on for the past 10 years needs to stop or Oregon will be lost forever.

It is going to take a lot to fix our State and the first step to doing that is voting No on LC2. Please Senators and Representatives, listen to the people, we need your help. Being a good leader is by doing what is right, not what is easy. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

P.S. Please make Fentanyl a schedule 1 narcotic and make public use/ possession a class B felony with mandatory 90 days in jail and drug rehab. After rehab your felony will be erased like diversion so people can get a second chance at life. This is going to be the only thing that saves lives especially that of young adults. With no deterrent or meaningful consequences, just as little as a fine, numerous young lives are unnecessarily lost daily because Oregon leaders have said, "it's ok" by legalizing it and then re-criminalizing but with a consequence that's as meaningless as the paper it's written on. As a result, many officers continue to turn a blind eye as there is no consequences for not showing up to voluntary drug treatment and judges let repeated offender walk and allow people to overdose multiple times in a day. The fentanyl has total control over the addicts and they can no longer make rational decisions. They will choose the drug every time until there is consequences and they are forced to get sober and have a moment of clarity to realize how messed up their lives are and how close to dying they are. I am saying this as a medical professional who sees countless lives lost daily. It's extremely sad and the lives that are lost is a direct result of failed political choices and legalizing the most harmful drug available. Legalization of Fentanyl and other hard drugs was done in the name of "Compassion". There is nothing compassionate about slowing addicts to slowly killing themselves everyday and openly do fentanyl and other drugs out in the public in broad daylight in view of young children. This is not acceptable and if you truly want to help these addicts, then you can no longer allow this behavior in public and must recriminalize Fentanyl as the harmful drug that it is. This cannot be tolerated and until the political leaders choose to end this madness, the deaths of Fentanyl users (including young adults) is on your hands as it could have been prevented. Someone has to be the adult in the room, and while arresting people for using drugs might seem harsh, it is the right thing to do in order to save their lives. And after they complete mandatory 90 day drug treatment, the criminal charge can be dropped so the individual can be a productive member of society without a record preventing them from getting a job. Allowing public drug use especially

fentanyl where people are overdosing multiple times a day is the equivalent of a child repeatedly sticking a fork in an electrical outlet, their mind doesn't know it's bad for them and it is the responsibility of adults to prevent a child from hurting itself. The same applies with fentanyl users, they no longer have the capability to make good choices and it's up to legislatures to put laws into place which will make drug use in public illegal to prevent these people from further harming themselves. You can't just say you are compassionate and care, your actions need to back it up. And the rest of the public and taxpayers shouldn't have to be subjected to people overdosing daily on the street as well as watching drug use as prevalent as smoking cigarettes use to be.

Now is the time to take back Oregon and stop the bleeding. Oregon is not lost yet, but unless we change today it will go bankrupt and be gone forever.