

Submitter: Rachel Freed  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 3362, which proposes to impose an excise tax on retail sales of tires. While I understand that the intent of this bill may be to address environmental concerns or fund specific initiatives, I believe that such a tax would have negative repercussions for consumers and the tire industry as a whole.

First and foremost, implementing an excise tax on tires will place an additional financial burden on consumers, particularly those who rely on their vehicles for work, transportation, and daily activities. Tires are a necessary expense, and adding a tax will disproportionately affect low- and middle-income families who may already be struggling with rising costs of living. This tax could discourage timely tire replacements, leading to safety concerns on the roads.

Moreover, the tire industry plays a critical role in our economy, providing jobs and supporting local businesses. Imposing an excise tax could lead to decreased sales and potential job losses within the sector. Retailers may also pass on the costs to consumers, resulting in higher prices for essential goods and services.

Additionally, there are existing programs and initiatives that promote tire recycling and environmental stewardship without the need for an excise tax. Instead of imposing new taxes, we should focus on enhancing these programs, encouraging responsible tire disposal, and investing in infrastructure that supports sustainable practices.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the implications of HB 3362. The proposed excise tax on retail tire sales would unfairly burden consumers, harm the economy, and potentially undermine existing environmental efforts. Thank you for your attention to this important issue, and I hope you will stand against this bill.