

Submitter:

Michael Brainard

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Chairs McLain and Pham & Vice-Chairs Boshart-Davis and Starr.

I am extremely disappointed in the partisanship of the Democrats on this committee. The democrats live in an alternative universe where everyone can grow money on trees for free. What the democrats fail to realize is that if those trees were grown in Oregon, the Democrats would find a way to tax the produce of the trees, tax the nutrients and water that make the tree grow, and restrict what fertilizers are used. After the Democrats' throttling demands, the tree would produce very little.

The democrats in the legislature are chasing away businesses with their tax increases. Keen and Dutch Bros are moving facilities out of Oregon. Sheri's, Denny's, and Rite Aid have chosen Oregon to close their stores. Oregon and New York have the highest tax rates, Governor Kotek had to go to Portland and beg them to reduce their taxes. Oregon is hurting, and the Democrats are the cause. The Democrats have a supermajority in the legislature and have every statewide position.

Now HB 2025 would increase taxes by nearly 2 billion dollars and bring in 15 billion over the next 10 years. What's a shame is that the Republicans proposed a concept that would have raised no new taxes and brought ODOT back in line. The Democrats refused to even consider the proposal because they think they know best. The democrats pushed for an amendment that figuratively sticks knives in the back of hard-working Oregonians.

The Democrats' plan to triple the payroll tax is egregious. Public Transportation doesn't even go near my place of employment. It's a 30-minute walk from the nearest bus stop.

I urge a YES vote on the dash 27A Amendment and NO on HB 2025A and NO to the dash 28A Amendment

Oregon can't handle any more Taxes, and the people should be allowed to decide.