

Oregon State Legislature
Special Session
HB 3991

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NO NEW TAXES!

The Democrats will never be able to convince me that they are trying to benefit all Oregonians with these tax policies. If they were, they would have done something about run-away, out of control Highway contracts and projects. The Oregon Democrats are even trying to control labor in other states. Yes, that is what they are doing when they say a potential (any other state) Company that might make a highway cistern sump pump for a Freeway cistern as a part of an Oregon Highway Storm Water runoff project, must meet certain labor laws, including Union and Wage Standards along with other rules just to bid on the project.

If they were that concerned, The Democratic Governor would not be placing such outlandish bid and Labor requirements on any Company bidding on a highway construction contract.

[Another exploding whale: ODOT's freeway widening cost quadruples – City Observatory](#)

[Rose Quarter Boondoggle: A Case Study in Why Oregon Taxpayers Are Fed Up — Ed Diehl for Oregon](#)

[Oregon economist examines the future of ODOT - OPB](#)

“...There was a recent study published by the Brookings Institution, which looked at all 50 states and looked at their benchmark construction costs, and it said Oregon's construction costs are about double the national average for the 50 states. So it appears to be worse.”

I have gotten messages from Oregon Legislators who Pilot / FLY AIRPLANES, travel the world, spend more on ski passes in one season than my entire year recreational budget, have expensive hobbies, have great salaries and retirement income. In short, they do not care, they have the money or the source of income so instead of going to work and fixing the problem, they take the easy way out and just cram it down our throats, because they can.

They are telling me raising these taxes is just absolutely needed for the livability of Oregon, to support a “crumbling infrastructure”. The arrogance and hypocrisy is dripping from their statements. How's that Rose Quarter project going in Oregon that those of us in Yamhill or Klamath County are being taxed through the nose for?

These legislators have no problem buying a \$5000 to \$10,000 vacation package, go on cruises, or putting \$400 to \$2000 of Av Gas in their airplanes telling me that these taxes are going to save Oregon and that I can afford it! What in the world do they care? They have plenty of money to cover it. Too bad the rest of the people in Oregon don't. I do not see a road gas tax added to aviation fuel. Is that gas tax subtracted should a person gas, say a boat, a tractor or SxS you see running around. I have not seen a sales tax added to airplanes and when was the last time they paid a privilege tax on their cruise or European Vacation? How about those ski lift tickets?

Absolutely no new Transportation tax. **BEFORE THIS DISCUSSION CAN EVEN TAKE PLACE, ODOT AND THE CONTRACTS THEY ISSUE MUST BE AUDITED.** I'd go so far as to say, ODOT needs a complete reorganization! It is so rotten to the core that there is no choice but to start over. Project managers must be replaced or at the very least, reviewed for knowledge, proficiency, experience and professionalism in general. The "good old boy, you scratch my back I'll scratch yours must be eliminated.

Yesterday my wife and I were at a DMV office to remove a lien holder from two titles and replace a stolen drivers license. It was ridiculous. These were not vehicle transfer title transactions. We already had titles in our names. We just wanted the lien holder removed. \$101 each. \$202 to remove lienholders from two vehicles, one of those not even a road vehicle, it was a camper considered "Cargo" by something like 43 states. \$30 for my wife to change address and get the replacement with the correct address on it.

So, to get the lien holder removed from two titles, replace a **stolen** ODL, get 2 ODL address changes the bill came to \$292.00, including \$90 in fees for replacing the Stolen license and 2 renewals. Now, imagine this new tax being in effect. The bill for removing the lien holders would have been a whopping **\$480**. Providing no increase to driver license fees, the TOTAL BILL would have been **\$570.00**. Absolute nonsense and something I have plenty of out in the horse barn. How many average working families can afford that? The \$292 "broke" the bank as it was. Had the new fees been in effect, we would have had to budget that out over 3 months and 3 trips to a DMV office. The DMV office in La Pine is open one day a week. Lines were backed out of the office all the way to the streets and down the sidewalk. I've seen Bend and other offices. Presuming Bend is the feeder for La Pine, there is no reason why that La Pine office can't be open at least 2 days a week.

Some of you want to raise taxes, while a Democrat just sent out an email containing this half truth....

"Last week I wrote about the effect of the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill on Oregon taxpayers, Oregon tax revenue, and the Oregon economy.

Some of you asked about details on what the bill might save you or what it might cost. For high-income earners, households in the top tenth would see, on average, \$13,600 more annually, about 2.7% of their projected income, according to the Congressional Budget Office." *[When was the last time the CBO was even in the ball park on any of their projections – they are as bad as or worse than Oregon's Economic Projections]*

“Households in the middle 20% of the income distribution would receive, on average, between \$800 and \$1,200 more per year, which would account for 0.8% to 1% of their income. However, those savings are scheduled to phase out over time.

Major changes to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, mean Americans at the bottom of the income distribution will see a net loss of benefits, CBO said. The lowest tenth of households by income would see a drop of about \$1,200 per year, which accounts for 3% of that group’s projected income.”

I say half truth and lies because of the last two paragraphs. "Households in the top 10% would see, on average, \$13,600 more annually, about 2.7% of their projected income. It's their money, they earned it. They may see that as take home pay but it is not like they are getting a pay raise. Simply put, some greedy Democrat can't get their hands on it and for our Legislators who are in that area or close to it, you don't hear them fessing up.

In the last paragraph, those people WHO REFUSE TO GO TO WORK, will see cuts and those people ILLEGALLY in the United States and criminally harbored by the State of Oregon at Oregon Tax Payer expense, will see the increase.

Those that don't work? Well, they are going to have to find some gainful employment (able bodied) least part time. And the only way that \$1200 loss factors in is a loss of free benefits supplied by the government tax payer to those people WHO DO NOT **QUALIFY** to begin with.

In the meantime, Oregon is "rich enough" to provide illegal (Federal Law Supremacy) Sanctuary to illegal aliens (again Federal Law) which not only cost the tax payers of Oregon additional taxes to support them, but also costs Oregon Billions in Federal Money that is being withheld for violating Federal Law.

The same legislature who sent the above also mentioned that we trail Washington and California on gas and other taxes. Oregon is what, #4 or #6. This is not a race to be #1 in the nation on gas taxes. If this or any other legislator likes the taxes in Washington or California, I suggest you move there and leave and leave those who truly wish to be Oregonians alone.

I say, not one more red cent in taxes. ODOT and other state Agencies have to be audited, improper or failed practices identified and have corrective actions taken and are held accountable. OREGON MUST COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAW AND REGAIN THOSE FUNDS. This is absolute nonsense, very similar to paying higher and higher water bills, but not addressing the issue of the broken water pipe.

The increase in title fees, registration fees, nonsense. As to EV's and Hybrids I thought there was a program started several years ago for mileage taxes on them. What happened to that? There is absolutely no excuse to raise registration fees for them if they are charged a per mile tax just like the trucks are. No excuse, you can do it on trucks, do it on EV's and quit coddling the EV crowd. You give them tax breaks and incentives and are now crying because they don't pay road taxes? I think a kindergarten student could have figured that one out before one red cent of tax payer

money was paid on a single electric vehicle. An electric vehicle that has as high a carbon footprint as a modern gas or diesel vehicle.

Not one more red cent until government and ODOT gets their act together, including a full audit.

The Republicans put forth a plan during the 2025 session showing it was possible to fund ODOT without raising these taxes. Get off your derrieres, quit playing partisan politics and work with Republicans to get this done without raising taxes. Democrats wouldn't even give it a PUBLIC Hearing! WHY NOT? Again I say, not one more red cent until all ideas are put forth to the public.

And, one final thought...I am sick and tired of hearing from legislators the following or something similar, "We hear and see more and are smarter, have more information than most all Oregonians and therefore know more about what's best for them". Not the exact words but paraphrased from former Senator Ginny Burdick, similar to what others have said and most recently that I'm aware of from Senator Manning in the 2025 Session. From what I've seen the last several years, these "know it all's" are going to the wrong schools.

Get your butts out of the concrete and steel cities for a day and see what it is like to drive an open seat tractor, pull a plow, get a little dirty, raise a horse or a cow and GET AN EDUCATION.

Please stand with working families and Oregon retirees on fixed income and oppose Tina Kotek and the Democrat's massive \$5 Billion tax hike.

Oregonians cannot afford more gas taxes, higher title and registration fees (remember my personal excursion to DMV that was \$292 that would have been \$570 under this new scheme, or politicians taking more out of our paychecks. A 15% increase to the gas tax would be the largest in Oregon's history.

Hard-working Oregonians are struggling to make ends meet and are tightening their belts. So should ODOT.

Oregon is already the 4th least affordable state with the 6th highest transportation costs. Please don't make it worse by passing Governor Kotek's massive tax bill.

Please make ODOT prioritize their budget to keep our roads safe and oppose any efforts to increase costs on working families.

As a legislator stated referencing the Republican passed Federal Budget Bill in the quote above, ""Households in the middle 20% of the income distribution would receive, on average, between \$800 and \$1,200 more per year, which would account for 0.8% to 1% of their income. However, those savings are scheduled to phase out over time." Well, pass this ill-conceived version of legal Theft and I guess we just won't have to worry about it. As to the lower income folks poised to loose \$1200 you refer too...How

Dare You even consider passing a bill like this and talk about people loosing \$1200 in the same letter or breath. Such Hypocrocy!

Please say NO to KOTEK'S TAXES.

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