

Submitter: Irine Allen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

To the Honorable Oregon State Legislature, My name is Irine , an Oregonian woman fed up with being squeezed by rising costs. I oppose House Bill 3991 and its steep tax and fee hikes: a 6-cent gas tax jump, \$42 more for vehicle registration, \$139 extra for title fees, and a new 0.1% payroll tax. With electricity rates up 5.5% for PGE, insurance soaring, and groceries eating our budgets, these increases could force families like mine to leave Oregon just to survive. The state's 2025-27 budget is \$37.2 billion, up 4.9% from \$35.5 billion last cycle. Plus, Oregon pulls in \$1.2 billion yearly from legal marijuana taxes and \$1.4 billion from lottery revenue. With all this money, why raise taxes? The problem isn't a lack of funds-it's wasteful spending. Look at the \$149,000 for the governor's wife's Behavioral Health Initiative role, or ODOT's high-paid DEI positions costing hundreds of thousands. Then there's the unaudited \$426 million spent on homelessness programs that haven't fixed the crisis, and free medical insurance and food stamps for undocumented immigrants stretching our resources thin. Our roads and bridges are crumbling-ODOT's \$350 million in debt proves it. Instead of taxing us more, redirect these funds to fix infrastructure. Stop the mismanagement and prioritize Oregonians struggling to make ends meet. Sincerely, Irine