Submitter: Michael Wolf

On Behalf Of: Hb3991

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation

Funding

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3991

To whom this may concern,

I am writing as a concerned Oregon resident and constituent to urge you to vote 100% UNEQUIVOCALLY NO on House Bill 3991, the transportation funding package currently under consideration.

While I understand the need to address the Oregon Department of Transportation's budget shortfall, I believe HB 3991 is not the right solution because:

- 1. Regressive Tax Burden The proposed increases in the gas tax, registration fees, and payroll tax disproportionately impact working families and low-income Oregonians, especially in rural areas where driving is unavoidable.
- 2. Lack of Investment in Sustainable Transportation Nearly all revenue is earmarked for roads and highways, leaving little for public transit, biking, and pedestrian infrastructure that could reduce congestion and emissions.
- 3. Questionable Accountability Even with the inclusion of audits, ODOT's cost overruns and spending practices raise concerns about pouring billions more into a system without meaningful reform.
- NOT ONE SINGLE PERSON has been held accountable for their errors and mismanagement of funds. What's to say this isn't going to happen again? There needs to be change! Not more money given to them. When my house hold comes up short for the month I can't go to my boss and expect them to give me more money an hour...Can I? No I can't! So they shouldn't be given more money. Maybe make salary cuts? They already have egregious salaries and clearly aren't doing their job.
- 4. Road Usage Charge Challenges The proposed per-mile fees for electric and hybrid vehicles could discourage EV adoption at a time when Oregon is trying to meet ambitious climate goals.
- 5. Repeal of Tolling Eliminating the tolling program removes a tool that could help manage congestion and ensure users directly contribute to infrastructure costs.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask that you oppose HB 3991 or work to amend it to:

- Prioritize a fairer funding model that does not overburden working
  Oregonians;
- Ensure a greater share of revenue supports public transit, climate resilience, and active transportation;
- Improve ODOT accountability and transparency before allocating additional billions.

Thank you for your time and service to our state. I appreciate your careful consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely, Michael Wolf