

Submitter: Janet Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3992

Testimony Opposing HB3992 – Oregon Transportation Revenue Allocation Bill
Submitted by Janet Brown, Tualatin, OR

Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Committee—

I'm submitting this testimony as a single mother to an adult son with autism, and as a citizen who believes deeply in fiscal responsibility and public accountability. I strongly oppose HB3992.

This bill outlines how the revenue raised through HB3991—nearly \$800 million over the next two years—will be distributed. But it does so without the transparency, oversight, or performance benchmarks that Oregonians deserve.

We've seen this pattern before:

- Massive funding packages passed with vague promises
- Agencies like ODOT failing to deliver on timelines and budgets
- Projects like the Abernethy Bridge tripling in cost—from \$248 million to over \$815 million
- No public-facing audits, no measurable outcomes, and no consequences

HB3992 continues that pattern. It reallocates substantial public funds under the label of “emergency adjustments,” yet it sidesteps meaningful oversight. There is no clear mechanism to ensure these funds will improve services, reduce waste, or address urgent public needs.

At a time when trust in state agencies is already strained, this bill risks deepening public skepticism. Oregon families are being asked to pay more—through gas taxes, registration fees, payroll taxes, and per-mile tracking—while the state refuses to show us how past money was spent or what results were achieved.

Before allocating new revenue, the Legislature must:

- Tie appropriations to clear performance benchmarks
- Require public-facing audits of agencies receiving funds
- Ensure community input on spending priorities

HB3992 does none of these. I urge you to reject it and demand a more transparent, accountable approach to emergency budgeting—one that earns public trust and delivers real value.

Thank you.