

Submitter: John Richardson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation  
Funding

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

I am writing in extreme opposition of this measure to raise taxes & levy new fees.

DOGE, and simple budget reviews, have made it perfectly clear that the resources currently being sent to our federal and state governments is being grossly misused. There should be an overhaul of the existing budget before any new taxes & fees should be levied.

In addition, I am a business owner with between 20 and 25 employees, in recent weeks, and looking to grow. I am a healthcare professional who relies on his staff to provide a variety of therapeutic measures, to properly serve our patients with regard to medicolegal issues, maintain accurate paperwork, and provide billing clarity. Doubling the payroll tax would significantly impact my desire to expand our workforce and would likely have the same effect on the dozens of colleagues I'm in contact with.

At a time when having a job is not just a financial necessity for most functional adults, it is also a point of pride and a builder of character for most working-aged people. The secondary effects of that lead to a calmer and more cohesive family life, a sense of civic connection, and leads to increased self-care, that prevents people from leaning on crutches, like drugs, alcohol, abusive outbursts, and other negative or risky behaviors.

These secondary effects of avoiding tax and fee strain will lead to fewer arrests and decreased strain on the family, more steady employment, and an increase in tax revenue overall. For those individuals who are doing well, the desire to purchase or maintain vehicles, which supports local businesses who sell, deal, service, transport, fuel, clean, upgrade, or fix vehicles in the state of Oregon will decrease, leading to the increased hardship of the thousands of aforementioned businesses.

Gov. Kotek should look to be a leader within her party - A party that I was a member of for 26 years, until last November - and take a brave of stance against budgetary waste. She should oppose looking towards new taxes and fees as a way to solve our state's problems.

Thank you for your time.

An increased fee on electric or hybrid vehicles is both shortsighted and incongruous with the stated goals of the Tina Kotek governorship. It is my understanding that her staff and her party have taken a significant stance for the diminishment of global warming. Living attacks on the purchase of these vehicles, and the registration of new ones or old ones, Stands in stark contrast to our statewide and worldwide goals.