

Submitter: Paul Jones  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation  
Funding  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3992

I'm writing as an Oregon resident to urge you to vote no on HB 3991 and HB 3992. These bills may look like just another round of taxes and spending, but for people like me, they're a real threat to our ability to live and work here.

HB 3991 raises the gas tax, increases title and registration fees, and even doubles the statewide transit payroll tax. Oregon families are already stretched thin with the high cost of living—housing, groceries, utilities, and fuel are all going up. Adding new taxes and fees on top of this makes it even harder to stay here. Too many people have already left Oregon because it's simply unaffordable, and bills like this only push more of us in that direction.

Then there's HB 3992. Instead of using the money from HB 3991 to actually fix our roads or reduce traffic, this bill increases ODOT's ability to spend more on its administration and bureaucracy. That's not what Oregonians need. We don't need bigger government offices—we need safe, reliable infrastructure.

The problem is that ODOT has not earned the trust of taxpayers. For years, we've paid higher gas taxes and fees, but our roads are still in bad shape, congestion is worse, and we're not seeing the results we were promised. Before asking us for more money, there should be a full, independent audit of ODOT's spending. We deserve to know where the money has gone and why we aren't seeing improvements.

At the end of the day, this isn't just about taxes—it's about fairness and accountability. Oregonians have done our part. We've paid more and more, but we're not getting value in return. HB 3991 and HB 3992 will just make life in Oregon more expensive while rewarding failure at ODOT.

Please reject these bills and focus on solutions that help people, not hurt them. We need accountability, transparency, and leadership that puts Oregonians first.

Thank you for listening.