

Mindy Kloser
355 Vine Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
mindy.kloser@icloud.com

August 31, 2025

To: Members of the Oregon Legislature

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to you with deep concern and strong opposition to the Governor's proposal, now embodied in **HB 3991** and **HB 3992**. This legislation is not only harmful to the people of Oregon, but the process by which it is being pushed forward is deeply troubling and undermines public trust.

On **Monday, August 25th**, I joined thousands of fellow Oregonians in submitting testimony against the Governor's proposal. An overwhelming **95% of testimony submitted was in opposition**. Yet, rather than respect and represent the will of the people, the Governor failed to even appear at the August 25th session — nor did she appear at the **Friday, August 29th session**, as she was on vacation. This absence in the face of such critical debate is unacceptable behavior for an elected official who is supposed to represent and serve the people of this state.

Despite overwhelming opposition, quorum was forced and a second round of testimony was quietly opened on a **Sunday at noon**, when fewer Oregonians would be able to participate. This gives the appearance that the state is deliberately minimizing public input rather than amplifying it.

The legislation itself is deeply harmful. **HB 3991** raises the gas tax, increases title and registration fees, nearly doubles the mandatory per-mile tax for EVs and hybrids by 2031, and even doubles the statewide transit payroll tax. Meanwhile, **HB 3992** directs these new revenues primarily into ODOT administrative spending rather than directly benefiting taxpayers. Families like mine — already stretched thin by inflation, housing costs, and stagnant wages — cannot afford yet another tax increase when billions have already been collected through **HB 2017 ("Keep Oregon Moving")**, which raised \$5.3 billion over the past decade. Instead of accountability and fiscal stewardship, Oregonians are being asked to hand over even more.

I am a mother of three, and my family is struggling to make ends meet. I have been unable to find full-time work despite a bachelor's degree and 25 years of professional experience, and my husband's income alone does not qualify us for assistance programs like food stamps. We are exactly the kind of family that these tax hikes will hurt the most.

I urge you to stand firmly against **HB 3991 and HB 3992**. These bills represent a betrayal of public trust and a disregard for the clear voice of Oregonians. We do not need higher taxes; we need responsible management of the funds already collected. To push forward with these bills in the face of overwhelming public opposition is unacceptable.

Please, on behalf of my family and the countless other Oregon families who cannot afford this, **vote no** on HB 3991 and HB 3992. The people have spoken loudly and clearly. We are asking you to listen.

Respectfully,
Mindy Kloser