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# KEIZER CHAMBER OPPOSES SPECIAL SESSION TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

**Before: Joint Special Session Committee on Transportation Funding / August 31, 2025**

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Co-Chairs Wagner and Fahey, and Members of the Joint Committee:

The Keizer Chamber of Commerce is the eyes, the ears, and the voice of the diverse business community providing employment, and goods and services, in and around Keizer, Oregon.

We are submitting this testimony to strongly oppose the House Bill 3991, the Special Session Transportation Funding package. Our objection is based on two factors.

## **Partisanship**

Legislation of this significance needs bipartisan input, cooperation, and support. The Legislature needs to develop a package supported by the leadership of both Democrats and Republicans. It will be hard. It will require compromise.

By all accounts, Legislative leadership chose to create a transportation funding package that is partisan in nature. Leadership is counting on only Democrats to provide the supermajority of votes needed to create new taxes. Unwillingness to engage the minority party in any significant way assures an imperfect result. This simply is not the "Oregon Way."

## **All taxes and no reallocation**

HB3991 is all tax and no adjustment. An alternative proposal suggests ODOT has existing funds which can be reallocated to maintenance and preservation. As we understand the package, Legislative leadership is unwilling to make ANY adjustment of existing allocations. This unwillingness to make any adjustments in the existing 2025-2027 biennial budget suggests the Special Session is much more about raising money than ensuring it is spent on the state's highest priorities, which should include maintenance and preservation. A transportation funding package that reallocates existing funding priorities, while making modest increases in some taxes, could receive broader support, potentially including the business community. The current proposal simply falls short of what all Oregonians should expect from our policymakers.

## **Conclusion**

Oregon's business community relies on pavement to move employees, goods and services across our communities, our state, our country and internationally. We need our elected leaders to work together on transportation funding that creates priorities which can be supported by both parties.