

Submitter: Ciatta Thompson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

Dear Honorable Members of the Oregon House and Senate,

My name is Ciatta Thompson. I am a 46-year-old East Coast transplant who has lived in Portland for nearly five years. I have worked in the hotel industry in downtown Portland for four years, where I currently gross close to \$71,000 annually. Since moving here, I have grown to love Oregon—the lush greenery, breathtaking mountain views, inventive dining, and the countless activities that make this a state I hope to call my forever home.

At the Marriott, where I work, I lead an incredible front desk team—mostly women from diverse backgrounds. We are all hourly employees. Any increase in payroll taxes will reduce our take-home pay, strain already tight household budgets, and make it harder for employers to keep staff. Given Portland's and Oregon's current economic struggles, hotels simply cannot absorb these added costs without cutting hours, limiting growth, or reducing jobs. This proposal would punish the very working-class Oregonians who keep our economy running.

Repeated news reports have made it clear that ODOT has mismanaged its budget—whether through the billion-dollar “accounting error” or chronic cost overruns on projects. Instead of addressing these failures, HB 3991 would only expand governmental bloat and shift the burden onto workers and employers who are already stretched thin.

I strongly urge you: do not support HB 3991. Protect Oregon's workers and families by demanding accountability, a line-by-line audit funded by ODOT, and leadership changes to restore integrity. Oregon deserves fiscal responsibility from its government—not new taxes that weaken the livelihoods of the people who call this state home.

Respectfully,

Ciatta Thompson
Portland, OR