

I am writing to express my strong and unequivocal opposition to House Bill 3991, the so-called “transportation package” that would raise gas taxes, DMV fees, wage taxes, and impose a mandatory per-mile road usage charge. This bill represents yet another crushing financial burden on working Oregonians at a time when families are already stretched thin.

HB 3991 is deeply flawed on multiple levels:

1. Punishing Tax Increases – Forcing families to pay an additional \$200–\$400 per year through higher fuel taxes, DMV fees, and wage taxes is unacceptable. Oregon already has some of the highest transportation-related taxes in the country, and layering on more is both reckless and unfair.
2. Per-Mile Road Usage Charge is a Privacy and Financial Nightmare – Mandating a per-mile tracking system for Oregonians’ vehicles is an invasion of privacy and an administrative disaster waiting to happen. While framed as “modernization,” it is nothing more than a costly surveillance tax that penalizes drivers, particularly those in rural areas who have no alternative to driving long distances.

3. Broken Trust with Taxpayers – ODOT has repeatedly mismanaged funds and failed to deliver on past promises. Until serious reforms and accountability measures are put in place, taxpayers should not be asked to hand over even more money to a system that has proven itself wasteful and inefficient.
4. Economic Harm – Small businesses, commuters, and working families will shoulder the brunt of this tax package. At a time of high inflation and economic uncertainty, HB 3991 will make Oregon less affordable and less competitive.

Oregonians are not a bottomless piggy bank for the legislature. Instead of raising taxes yet again, lawmakers should prioritize fiscal responsibility, demand greater efficiency from ODOT, and pursue alternative solutions that do not punish families, workers, and small businesses.

For these reasons, I urge you in the strongest possible terms to vote NO on HB 3991. I will be closely following your actions on this bill, and I expect you to stand with your constituents rather than against them.

Thank you for your time and consideration.