

I wholeheartedly oppose HB 2025. We do not need more taxes in Oregon. We are drowning in government regulations, new fees, new taxes, & higher taxes. I encourage you to show restraint & realize that Oregonians are overwhelmed & cannot support the ever-increasing annual taxes & fees imposed by those that do not understand the issues faced by the “average” citizen. Before imposing new fees/taxes, audit the departments & find where the \$ has gone. We deserve accountability for all the money we have already paid before you impose even more onerous taxes & fees.

I have addressed some of the major new taxes & fee increases proposed below:

- **Gas Tax Increase: A proposed 37.5% increase to the state gas tax, equating to approximately 40 cents more per gallon.** We already pay some of the highest price(s) per gallon in the US. High gas prices disproportionately effect (negatively) rural residents & school districts. We drive 100s of miles daily just to get to work & our kids to school.
- **Vehicle Registration Fee Increase: A 50% increase in vehicle registration fees, adding an estimated \$50 or more to the cost of registering a vehicle.** When I moved to Oregon, we paid \$13/year to register our vehicles. Once politicians had the power, the cost of registration has skyrocketed. It is just too much.
- **Vehicle Title Fee Increase: An increase in vehicle title fees, estimated at \$70 or more, to be applied at the time of vehicle purchase or transfer.** Again, this is just too much. The average Oregonian cannot continue to pay these increases. What happened to all the \$ collected since Politicians got control of the fees?
- **Sales Tax on Vehicle Purchases: A new 2% sales tax on vehicle purchases, applied at the time of buying a car.** Oregonians have never voted for a sales tax. This needs to go directly to the voters & not be imposed (illegally) by a super-majority of Politicians.
- **Corporate Delivery Fee: A new fee for businesses using at least 10 medium-duty vehicles for package deliveries to homes or businesses, based on the mileage driven.** Another tax on Businesses. Didn't you learn from the CAT tax that closed pharmacies, & is driving Businesses out of Oregon? Again, rural Oregonians are disproportionately affected – we only have 1 pharmacy left for 10,000 residents – waiting times 2+ hours.
- **Tire Pollution Tax: A new tax on tire purchases:** Again, this hits rural Oregonians hardest. We have to replace our tires more often. Also, many of us have 2 sets of tires because of ice & snow – it's a safety issue here, not an option.
- **Transit Tax Increase: An increase in the transit tax to support expanded public transit initiatives:** This is not a priority for Oregonians, as polls show. It is another tax that rural Oregonians pay without getting any benefit(s).