

Submitter: Joseph Tjaarda

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I am opposed to HB 2025 in its current form. Oregonians already pay some of the highest taxes in the nation.

With the revelation that ODOT has been fiscally irresponsible with their funding and the revelation that Tri-met is \$74 million in debt, it should not fall to the tax payer to cover these costs. Cities like Portland were warned multiple times that allowing mass protests and rioting would result in a decrease in foot traffic and ride share but they still have gone ahead with proposals such as cutting police funding.

Moreover, this bill will harm some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

Most freight including food is transported via Semi-trucks. The freight brokers that transfer goods to Oregon will not simply absorb the cost, but pass it on to the consumer. This will result in a continued downward spiral where stores raise their prices, businesses flee our ridiculously bad business climate and result in less tax revenue. In addition, suspect that many people will catch wind that they can register their vehicles in less expensive states, and buy their tires in neighboring states. I see this bill as a net negative that will not benefit the people or the state.

Therefore I strongly oppose this bill that will billions of dollars at the expense of an already cash strapped tax base