

Submitter: Stephanie Carino

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

### Opposition Statement to Oregon House Bill 2025

As a concerned Oregonian, I strongly oppose House Bill 2025, a transportation funding proposal that imposes over 35 new taxes and fees, with an estimated cost to families exceeding \$1 billion annually. While infrastructure improvements are necessary, this bill places an unsustainable financial burden on working families, small businesses, and individuals already struggling with rising costs of living.

Key reasons for my opposition include:

1. **Excessive Tax Burden:** HB 2025 introduces a multitude of taxes and fees, impacting everything from gas purchases to car sales and payroll. This broad approach disproportionately affects low- and middle-income Oregonians, who can least afford additional costs for essential transportation needs.
2. **Lack of Transparency:** The development of HB 2025 has been criticized for its lack of public input and secretive drafting process. A bill of this magnitude, with far-reaching economic impacts, demands open dialogue and robust stakeholder engagement to ensure it reflects the needs and priorities of all Oregonians.
3. **Questionable Prioritization:** The bill's extensive "transportation wishlist" includes projects that may not align with immediate infrastructure needs. Without clear justification for each expenditure, HB 2025 risks wasting taxpayer dollars on initiatives that fail to deliver meaningful improvements to Oregon's roads, bridges, and public transit systems.
4. **Public Opposition:** Hundreds of testimonies submitted via the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) reflect widespread concern about the bill's scope and impact. Ignoring this significant public feedback undermines the democratic process and erodes trust in legislative decision-making.

I urge lawmakers to reject HB 2025 and pursue a more targeted, transparent, and equitable approach to transportation funding. Oregonians deserve solutions that prioritize fiscal responsibility and community input without exacerbating economic hardship.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Carino

Marion County, Oregon