


FROM THE DESK OF
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TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION
OF OREGON



Oregon's Tech / New Economy Businesses Oppose HB 4120

HB 4120 was developed without input from home sharing businesses affected by this legislation. Sharing economy platforms need to be part of policy solutions around the best way to get transient lodging taxes (TLT) to local governments.

There is no question local transient lodging taxes are important. Home sharing platforms have said on countless occasions there are better ways to ensure local transient lodging taxes are collected and remitted to local jurisdictions, such as statewide collection system. But HB 4120 is unworkable and inefficient for new economy businesses.

This legislation mandates new, unprecedented requirements on home sharing platforms operating in Oregon.

This would be overwhelming and unworkable for sharing economy platforms that operate in cities throughout Oregon, the US and worldwide. Businesses need certainty. But this bill sets in motion a complicated, costly and bureaucratic challenge for businesses operating in communities throughout the state.

While the bill mandates collection and remittance of transient lodging taxes to local governments, there is no requirement that local governments create any "uniformity in the local laws (more than 100 Oregon jurisdictions have different TLT tax laws).

With this lack of uniformity, each Oregon city and county could impose new requirements on home share platforms with a "patchwork" of laws requiring how to collect from platform users, more frequent filing of collected taxes and no consistency regarding how and when it would request "audits" of the taxes collected.

Home sharing platforms are part of the new economy. Policymakers should think differently about how to partner on shared policy goals, such as local TLT collection.

Please reject HB 4120 and allow all stakeholders to work in the interim on consensus legislation that gets to the ultimate goal of a workable and efficient way of collecting and remitting local transient lodging taxes.

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