

Business	Name	Position	Signature
Wheeler Station Antiques	Kyle's Lane	Employee	[Signature]
Wheeler Tavern	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Construction	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
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Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]
Wheeler Lodge	Bob Schumman	Owner	[Signature]

March 19, 2019

Senate Finance and Revenue Committee  
900 Court Street, NE - Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR

Dear Chairman Hass and Members of the Committee:

The below identified business owners and citizens of Wheeler, Oregon in Tillamook County thank you for the opportunity to submit this written letter in opposition to SB595.

We believe this bill is short sided and is not in the best interest of the workforce that it is striving to help. We find a lack of housing as a significant need in our area, but that doesn't come close to the need for seasonal stability for the workforce that we employ.

The current allocation of lodging taxes going towards tourism facilities and promotion doesn't cause disparity in housing, more so has successfully began growing the economic impact of tourism in the Fall, Winter, and Spring that stabilizes our employees income through less seasonal employment. Since the creation of the countywide lodging tax in Tillamook County, Quarters 1, 2, and 4 have grown by an average of 17.5% each year with Quarter 3 growing only by 8.3% each year.

This growth has resulted in a significant increase to the 30% of funds that Tillamook County keeps. We believe SB595 is short sighted and clearly the wrong direction to move tax revenue generated by lodging. Removing revenue for tourism services will not only have a direct economic impact on our employees, it will halt the growth of the funding the County retains for services. Funding growth that could be used for affordable housing should they wish to make the effort to reallocate funds.

We are real world employers that are presenting real world impacts. We understand the concern of the local government and social services who support SB595, however we believe they are presenting through a lens that does not reflect the complexity of how economics works.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this important position from my community with you today.