



CITY OF HINES

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March 4, 2021

RE: HB-2015

To the House Committee On Revenue:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Hines in support of HB-2015.

Hines is a small town with 1,563 residents. To say that our small city is “rural” is an understatement and like other rural towns in Oregon, Hines has searched for economic stability in the decades after the decline of the logging industry.

When the State of Oregon legalized recreational marijuana, Hines opted-in to the State’s program to allow for its sale and currently there are two operating dispensaries. A good portion of the sales at these dispensaries comes from the traffic that travels through Hines on Highway 395 and Highway 20. Although not to the same degree, like the City of Ontario, we experience demand upon our limited resources (police, fire, parks, etc.) because of the increased activity of drive-through traffic and out of town visitors seeking to purchase marijuana. Revenue from marijuana sales helps to support and fill the gaps in our budget.

If HB-2015 were to become law, it would offer more flexibility for the City to adjust the tax rate to meet demand upon City resources. For this reason, the City of Hines would be in support of HB-2015.

Thank you,

Kirby Letham  
City Administrator