

Oak Street

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

May 8, 2025

Name: Denise McCravey, Oak Street Hotel, Gorge Rentals

Bill Number and Committee: HB 3962 – Testimony to the house Committee on Revenue

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Walters and Members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for HB 3962. I own a boutique hotel of 9 rooms and a property management company with a division for short term furnished vacation rentals. As a small business owner in a rural area and an active member of Visit Hood River I have great concerns and strong opposition to House Bill 3692.

In Hood River, transient lodging tax (TLT) revenues do far more than support tourism marketing. They help fund wildfire recovery efforts, enhance water safety education, maintain scenic trails, and ensure our outdoor recreation spaces are accessible and welcoming to all. These dollars also support arts and culture programming that enriches both residents and visitors alike. The impact of these investments is real, tangible, and shared across our entire community.

As an owner of a boutique hotel and property management company for 25 years, the pandemic continues to affect tourism in the Columbia Gorge. The recent national political climate and executive orders continue to negatively impact the discretionary income people use for travel as well as growth of businesses.

Meaningful economic growth in the tourism industry is a win win for many other businesses both large and small. For rural areas it can make a difference for restaurants, boutiques clothing shops, bakeries and more by allowing the TLT to be the contributor to meaningful growth in the tourism sector in Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my letter.

Respectfully,

Denise McCravey

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Owner/Broker

Oak Street Hotel

Gorge Rentals Property Management