

Submitter: Jennifer Brusa

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3556

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Jennifer, and I am a business owner in Oregon. I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 3556, which seeks to divert revenue from transient lodging taxes (TLT) away from tourism promotion and toward public safety and community infrastructure.

As a business owner, I understand the vital role that tourism plays in Oregon's economy, particularly in communities that rely heavily on visitor spending. The transient lodging tax was designed to support tourism marketing and the development of tourism-related facilities—efforts that drive visitors to our state and sustain thousands of small businesses like mine.

The proposed reallocation of these funds risks undermining the very industry that generates them. If tourism promotion efforts are weakened, fewer visitors will come to Oregon, resulting in a decline in revenue for hotels, restaurants, tour operators, and countless other businesses that depend on a thriving tourism economy. This, in turn, will lead to job losses and reduced economic activity in our communities.

I recognize the importance of funding public safety and infrastructure improvements, but shifting resources away from tourism is not the right solution. Instead, I urge the Legislature to explore alternative funding mechanisms that do not threaten the economic engine of our local economies.

I respectfully ask you to vote against HB 3556 and to protect the integrity of Oregon's tourism funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brusa