

HB 4148 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

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Meeting Dates: 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Changes the percent of net local Transient Lodging Tax revenue that must be used for tourism promotion or tourism-related facilities to at least 50 percent. Allows local Transient Lodging Tax revenue used for tourism or tourism-related facilities to also fund resiliency grants for small businesses in the restaurant and lodging industries. Changes the percent of net local Transient Lodging Tax revenue that may be used for city or county services to no more than 50 percent. Clarifies city or county services include both emergency services and non-emergency services funded by a city, county, or a special district in lieu of a city or county. Clarifies the percent changes may also be used by local governments who had local Transient Lodging Taxes in place on or before July 1, 2003. Makes these changes operative on January 1, 2027. Allows unexpended net revenues to be used in accordance with the changed percents. Makes the unexpended net revenue use change effective on or after the effective date of the bill. Requires local governments who impose a Transient Lodging Tax to file a report with the Legislative Revenue Office no later than September 1 of odd-numbered years beginning in 2027. Allows the League of Oregon Cities or the Association of Oregon Counties to file the report if requested by a local government. Adds a requirement that the Legislative Revenue Office provide a biennial summary report to the legislature. Repeals the reporting requirement on January 2, 2041. Adds a study requirement for the Legislative Revenue Office. The study is to consider the percent and use of local Transient Lodging Tax revenues. Requires the report be submitted to the Legislature no later than September 15, 2034. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A 1% Transient Lodge Tax was established by HB 2267 (2003) to help fund Oregon Tourism Commission programs. In 2016, the legislature increased the tax from 1% to 1.8% from July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2020. The tax rate was set to 1.5% thereafter. Lodging providers or intermediaries collect and remit the tax. There are some exclusions from the tax including health care facilities, emergency shelters, and military facilities. In statute, new or increased local Transient Lodging Taxes are those that are first imposed after July 1, 2003. Under current law, there are limits placed on these taxes. Net revenues may be used to fund tourism promotion or tourism-related facilities, city or county services, and financing, or refinancing, the debt of tourism-related facilities. At least 70% of the net revenues must be used for tourism promotion, tourism-related facilities, or financing or refinancing the debt of tourism-related facilities.