

Submitter:

Ronak Patel

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Focusing on lodging operators to create a budget for the outdoor maintenance is not in the state best interests. Lodging operators are already being squeezed by decking tourism and demand for hotel rooms. Increasing the total tax rate to more than 16% will drive tourist away from the state of Oregon to other outdoor states. This tax is not simply a pass through tax to lodging consumers, the operator will take a significant revenue decrease. If revenue decreases, while expenses such as labor, insurance, utilities, corporate fees, transaction processing fees, etc. keep increasing at a rate higher than inflation, we will see lodging operators shutter their doors.

We love the outdoor and natural but we need to find a different avenue for funding this project than simply blaming lodging operators and tourist as scapegoats.