

Submitter: Jitendrabhai Patel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective. I respectfully oppose HB 4134, which would increase the state transient lodging tax and place additional strain on small, independent motels.

Independent motel owners in Portland are already navigating high operating costs, modest tourism growth, and local lodging taxes of approximately 11.5% in Portland and Multnomah County, in addition to state taxes. Raising the state tax further would increase costs for guests and reduce competitiveness for smaller properties.

Unlike national hotel chains, independent motels do not have the flexibility or financial cushion to absorb revenue losses or restructure fees to offset tax increases. This proposal comes at a time when travel demand and workforce recovery remain uncertain.

Conservation and natural resource funding supports all Oregonians, and relying solely on lodging taxes places an unfair burden on one sector. Meanwhile, motel owners continue to face increasing costs related to insurance, labor, utilities, maintenance, and regulatory requirements.

For these reasons, I respectfully oppose HB 4134.