

Submitter: Kristin Fintel
On Behalf Of: Chehalem Ridge Bed and Breakfast
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I write to encourage you to vote no on HB 4134 which will destroy the tourism industry in Oregon, in my region of Willamette Valley and in my town of Newberg. As the owner of a 5-room B&B outside the town of Newberg, we see people all year long that visit and leave their money in Oregon, in the Willamette Valley, and in Newberg because of the work Travel Oregon, our RDMO, and DMOs do to market Oregon to travelers.

Over 18 years, we have seen just 25% of our guests come from within Oregon. Another 13% from Washington. That leaves 62% of our guests traveling a great distance and bolstering our local economy through their stay with me, lunch and dinner with local restaurants, shopping at our local shops and farms, buying wine and joining wine clubs to have Oregon wine purchased throughout the year... a direct-to consumer export! Because of their tourism dollars, my very small business is able to employ 2.5 people, with so many more employed at the restaurants, shops and wineries.

If you allow this bill to move forward and then pass, the tourism marketing dollars will be taken away by local and state governments. It's not even a maybe - it will happen. And my business will suffer, as will the restaurants, shops, and wineries. Our small town is not enough to support these businesses, but with tourists, these small businesses can be around for our community to enjoy. Please recognize the importance of the tourism industry and allow the TLT generated support only bringing in more tourism so that our industry can in turn support our communities.

Also, it'd be nice if this issue didn't come up again so soon.

Kristin Fintel, Owner Chehalem Ridge Bed & Breakfast