

Submitter: George Schweitzer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Dear Honorable Chairman Broadman & Members of the Finance and Revenue Committee,

I represent the Benson Hotel in downtown Portland, the Holman Hotel in Salem, the Independence Hotel in Independence and the Dundee Hotel in Dundee, Oregon.

Please vote No on HB 4134. It will increase the statewide lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.75% and will make Oregon less competitive.

Here are the two biggest reasons I'm asking you to vote NO:

It hurts our recovery: Raising taxes right now makes Oregon less competitive for travelers. Higher room costs lead to lower occupancy, which directly threatens hospitality jobs.

It's a tax on Oregonians: Nearly half of these taxes are paid by local families traveling within the state. This is an \$11 million price hike on Oregonians at a time when the economy is already tight.

Your support in opposing HB 4134 is critical and greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Kindly,

George