

Submitter: Brian Serbu
On Behalf Of: The Dublin House Motel
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

As the general manager for a family business of 40 years, any increase for any reason to lodging taxes hurts our business. My family and many others live directly off our motel's income and every customer gasps at the amount of tax that is charged to a visit to the coast. It is insulting to hear the comments of our legislature such as "the tourists don't/won't even notice." Every penny counts to our family and to the families that visit our motel. 80% of our business comes from within 100 miles which means you are taxing Oregonians when you say lodging tourists. Our customers pay 10.5% already. The 9% of local tax is said to be "really low" since other communities charge 12% for local tax on lodging. When does this absurd line of thinking change? When does the market break under this load? Furthermore, this year we have seen a significant drop in lodging and restaurant traffic on the coast; 25% per month several months in 2025. NPR reported the same story. Several businesses have closed recently as a result.

I am opposed to this tax. No one should be taxing "the wealthy industry" to provide for any cause. Taxes need to be built in a healthy way to sustain the society we want based on our NEEDS, not our desires. Please do not pass this bill. Please reconsider the toxic ideas that drive these initiatives and reverse the unhealthy ones that have already passed.