

**February 26, 2026**

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to state my firm opposition to House Bill 4134. This proposal would impose clear and measurable harm on the hospitality sector, on our customers, and on Oregon businesses at a time when the industry cannot absorb additional setbacks.

Portland's hospitality industry is still in recovery, and the pace remains unacceptably slow. Hotels and restaurants continue to face depressed visitation, elevated operating expenses, and ongoing perception issues that directly affect booking decisions. Current projections show that occupancy will remain below historical norms through 2026, with no significant new demand drivers expected until at least 2028. Introducing another cost burden now will push recovery even further out of reach.

The financial impact of House Bill 4134 is not theoretical. Based on actual operating data from our property, this tax would add up to **\$435,000 per year** in direct costs passed on to guests. This is an unnecessary and counterproductive financial burden on the very individuals and businesses helping sustain local commerce. This number does not take into account lost business which will surely result if this bill were to pass.

Travelers, meeting planners, and conference organizers scrutinize total destination cost. Even slight increases influence whether they choose Portland or take their business elsewhere. Raising the visitor tax directly increases the risk of losing group business, shortening guest stays, and reducing spending across the city. These losses extend far beyond hotels—they affect restaurants, transportation providers, vendors, and the thousands of workers who rely on visitor activity for their livelihood.

If Oregon intends to rebuild its competitiveness, it cannot continue implementing policies that make it more expensive to travel here or conduct business here. House Bill 4134 would do exactly that. It threatens to slow recovery, suppress demand, and weaken long-term economic growth in a sector that plays a critical role in the state's broader economy.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to oppose House Bill 4134. Its financial consequences are concrete, immediate, and disproportionately harmful to Oregon residents and businesses. The hospitality industry is working hard to recover; this bill would reverse that progress.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

**Martin McAllister**

General Manager

Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront