

Submitter: Mike Daley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Good Morning,

I would like to state the importance of maintaining the funding from the Transient Lodging Taxes going towards supporting the lodging efforts in the city. The poor reputation that Portland has in the national media has significantly damaged the hospitality industry. There are many hotels that have been placed in receivership by banks, and unfortunately several more that will be taken over by banks later this year. Our hospitality industry is one of the largest employers in the area, and reducing the funding will risk an increase in the loss of jobs. The jobs that will be lost will be mostly for people that are slightly above the poverty line and will lead to an increase of unsheltered individuals. These jobs also provide healthcare benefits and retirement plans, which these people will not be able to replace. We need to put as much money as possible to our industries marketing efforts to assist us in recovering the jobs we've already lost, as well as preventing further jobs being lost.

Thank you for your time.

Mike Daley
Vice President of Operations
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