

Submitter: Kayleen Davis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4148

I am life long, multi generation to Lincoln County. I see the damage caused by the tourism industry, placed on the shoulders of the tax payers to cover the cost. Our infrastructure are not able to handle the inflex in population. WWTP systems fail, breakage, overflows, causing pollution and destruction of our natural resources and additionally health hazards to all who come in contact. In our work to Save Our Siletz River, which initially began to stop the polluting of the Siletz River from the land applying of toxic sewage sludge, millions of gallons/thousands of tons from the municipals of Newport, Depoe Bay, Toledo, Siletz, much was being applied above the water intake for the Cities of Siletz, Toledo & Newport. We learned that the City of Newport WWTP was built for the population of Newport, not for the huge inflex of tourists. The majority if not all the WWTP need to be upgraded, repaired and maintained to stop the continuous breakages, overflows and spills of sewage onto land and into waterways.

Our roads and transportation system also needs major maintenance and repair, throughout our County and State.

The disportion of tax used to continue to promote tourism, without utilizing any of the tourism tax dollars to support the infrastructure to the communities which they visit, use and cause the disrepair or failure of, such as over flow of sewage is absurd. Why should this be the burden of the local community? We do NOT all profit from the tourist, for a major population of the local community rather are burden and lives disrupted by tourists, especially with all the homes in local neighborhoods that are now VRD/STR causing huge housing shortage for local citizens. I know of people whose families have been here for generation homeless as they are unable to afford housing. I have seen pictures of STR/VRDS wiith raw sewage pouring out, ignored, until a nieghbor posted pictures as they could get no help from their local officials. During the drought season, tourism is in full swing. The Siletz River is the biggest water source in Lincoln County and it is being over taxed with overusage and the decline of the river show. There needs to be focus on other water sources and protecting all our water sources from further pollution.

If the failing infrastructures are not repaired, maintained and upgreaded the pollution will continue to worsen, eventually destroying the beauty the tourists come to see and enjoy.

I hope all will support this bill for the sake of Our Beautiful Environment, Our Wildlife & Our Citizens.