

# TRAVEL PORTLAND

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March 2, 2026

Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue  
Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street NE  
Salem Oregon 97301

Re: HB 4148A

Dear Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane and Honored Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Travel Portland to urge you to vote NO on HB 4148A or, at a minimum, remove specific language that was added to the bill in its final work session in the House Committee on Revenue on February 19th. Travel Portland appreciates the compromise that was reached to achieve a more balanced approach to local lodging taxes in support of Oregon communities that experience high tourism demand. However, the inclusion of the provision for small business 'resiliency grants' as adopted by the House Committee on Revenue threatens the long-term viability of Portland's tourism economy and undermines the very engine that attracts leisure, business and convention visitor dollars into our community. For this reason, I implore you to vote NO on HB 4148A.

The hastily added language pertaining to small business resiliency grants includes no parameters or definitions for such a program. It leaves unlimited room for broad interpretation, threatening the intent of the existing statute, which is to support cross-sector destination marketing and promotion and investments in community assets that attract visitors, creating a virtuous cycle of measurable return on investment for Oregon communities. As the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce has testified, Oregon's small businesses need support on the *front* end in the form of strategically deployed economic development tools that drive demand and bring in customers, as investments in destination promotion and facilities do.

The nearly 200,000 Oregonians working in tourism deserve better than well-intended but reckless language inserted into the bill with no time allowed to consider the implications. Please allow for the time and collaboration necessary to craft intelligent Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) policies for Oregon. The industry has made progress toward a compromise recommendation for a 50:50 split between tourism and local General Fund investment of TLT and we are committed to continuing these conversations to arrive at the best possible result for our residents, our economy and visitors to Oregon.

To support stable, predictable funding for tourism promotion and infrastructure that ensures a sustainable fund for every program funded through TLT, it is imperative that the Senate committee amend the bill to remove the 'resiliency grants' language. I ask for the chance to work together with you toward a more thoughtful solution and I respectfully request your NO vote on HB 4148A.

Sincerely,



Megan Conway  
President & CEO