

I OPPOSE [HB 2023].

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2023/Introduced>

Staff Measure Summary:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/268966>

[HB 2023 (-5)] states, "SECTION 1. There is appropriated to the Oregon Tourism Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,500,000** for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2023 Act."

Here are a few comments:

Tourism should decline during the Biennium (2023-2025) due to inflation and increasing interest rates.

Oregon has a bad reputation for travelers. Who wants to travel to Portland?

Portland is a national disaster and embarrassment.

Tourism marketing dollars should avoid being spent on Portland.

It is comical for the sports related commercial enterprises located in Portland to think they will prosper. (I hope I am wrong.)

"Grants" alone are not going to save the sports tourism industry.

If you want Tourism, reduce the costs of tourism.

Consider a reorganization of Travel Oregon to cut costs of upper management and reformulate services.

The Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) needs reform (lower it).

Increase taxes significantly on Vrbo and Airbnbs. (Save Hotels and their jobs)

Since the "GENERAL FUND" was mentioned...

→What is the Housing and Community Services Department's total debt?

→The Debt Service alone is [\$155,800,792.00] allocated from this session's GENERAL FUND.

Check-out [SB 5511 (2023) Section 5]



<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB5511/Introduced>

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Mr. Oregon Concurr and says, "There are other staggering state department's debt services."

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