

Submitter: Elizabeth Wallis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

Until the state can be convinced to spend the vast majority of TLT money on infrastructure and services, there should be no additional TLT collected.

The local communities need roads, bridges, teacher salaries, health care facilities, law enforcement, and emergency services funded much more than they need more advertising done to bring tourists in. The current system fosters hostility between locals and STR owners and their guests, and will eventually force a tipping point.

When the locals are hostile, the roads are bad, and the trees are all cut down visitors will stop coming. Then where will the County go to refill their coffers?

As an STR owner who knows their neighbors and attends community meetings, I would support an increase if it had a direct, positive impact on my local neighbors. We need to make the TLT money work hardest for those who are most impacted by visitors.