

Submitter: Gloria Thomas

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

As the owner/operator of a Bed and Breakfast in Jackson County and the city of Medford, raising the transient lodging tax will have an adverse affect on our business. Medford has already increased in the last 5 years the TLT and the City has received more TLT from all the lodging than what was expected due to the increase. The Cities and the State need to manage these taxes accordingly and utilize them in areas that affect the tourism, like homelessness and safety. When you have guests that state that they would not return due to the amount of homeless, not feeling safe walking in the Downtown area and seeing lots of trash and dirty areas, that affects our business.

The State, Counties and Cities need to focus on the things that will help increase the tourism revenue to Oregon, and want to make more visitors come to Oregon, not tax them more and then that money not be utilized to enhance other areas that are not directly related to tourism. This bill makes no sense at all.