

Submitter: Heather Zink

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Heather Zink and I'm a Vice President for Westover Inns, Inc. An Oregon based company that owns five small hotels on the Oregon Coast. I'm writing in opposition to HB 2977. Tourism is vital to Oregon's economy and if we continue to raise the lodging tax it's going to deter people from traveling to our state and deter Oregonians from traveling within the state. We have hotels in Lincoln City and Cannon Beach. Both communities have local lodging taxes, and those were increased in 2023. Clatsop County is also proposing a lodging tax increase this year. Another tax increase at the state level is too much. It's going to hinder growth and do economic harm. Please vote against HB 2977. We support species conservation, but paying for it through a lodging tax increase is not the way.

Sincerely,
Heather Zink
Westover Inns