



March 3, 2025

The Honorable, Representative Daniel Nguyen, Chair
House Committee on, Economic Development, Small Business and Trade
900 Court St NE H-238
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony on HB 2171 Regarding Inequity in Transient Room Tax Allocation

Dear Chair, Rep. Daniel Nguyen, Vice Chair, Rep. ed Diehl and Committee Members

I am writing to formally address concerns regarding the distribution of TRT revenues. As the Manager of the Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreall Oregon. We have 48 RV spaces that are used mostly for those attending our events, however we also have many that stay as they are passing through Oregon, have kids at WOU that they are visiting, Grandparents visiting our area etc.

We collect and remit to the State the transient room tax as required by law. We have paid several thousands of dollars over the last few years. Yet we are unable to collect any of the benefits from it. All Fairgrounds through the State are fundamental to the tourism industry RV, camping and lodging providers like Fairgrounds are left without a say in or benefit from the tax revenue that we generate.

I respectfully request that the House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business and Trade review the allocation of TRT funds and consider a more equitable system to see that Fairgrounds with lodging services could either receive support or make us exempt from the program.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I would be happy to answer ay questions or discuss possible solutions and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tina R Andersen

Tina Andersen
Polk County Fairgrounds and Event Manager

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