WCCCP

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMIUI OFCOMMERCE PARTNERSHIP

March 18, 2025

To: House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
    Oregon State Legislature

From: Washington County Chamber of Commerce Partnership

Re: Opposition to House Bill 3556

Dear Chair Tran, Vice Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce Partnership (WCCCP), a coalition of eight local Chambers of Commerce in Washington County, write today to express our **strong opposition to HB 3556.** This legislation would divert essential Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) revenue away from its intended purpose-supporting visitor services and economic development-and instead allocate it to public safety and infrastructure. While these are important issues, they should be funded through appropriate, dedicated revenue sources rather than at the expense of tourism-related businesses and organizations.

Chambers of Commerce across Washington County rely on TLT funding to provide critical support for our visitor centers, distribute essential travel information, and enhance the experience of those who visit our communities. These efforts not only benefit local businesses but also drive economic growth that extends far beyond the hospitality sector.

Our business communities are still recovering from the long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and tourism funding is vital to their continued stability and success. Further reducing TLT allocations to Chambers of Commerce and destination marketing organizations would significantly hinder our ability to support businesses that depend on a strong visitor economy.

As leaders of Chambers across Washington County, we urge you to **reject HB 3556** and protect the integrity of TLT funding. Doing so will ensure that these dollars continue to serve their intended purpose - strengthening local economies and supporting the businesses that make Oregon a premier destination.

Respectfully,

Anneleah Jaxen

Anneleah Jaxen, CEO Tualatin Chamber of Commerce
Chair Washington County Chamber Partners