

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, and members of the committee,

On behalf of Crook County Parks and Recreation District, I am writing to express our strong opposition to HB 3556. This bill presents significant concerns for our community's ability to effectively promote tourism and support local events that drive economic growth.

Tourism is a vital part of Crook County's economy, and local events play a key role in attracting visitors to our area. Our parks, trails, and recreational facilities are important gathering spaces for these events, which bring residents and tourists together, supporting local businesses and fostering community connections.

We rely heavily on the support of tourism-related organizations to help promote these events and encourage visitors to explore Prineville and the surrounding region. Without these partnerships and the funding they provide, it would be incredibly difficult to market our area effectively and sustain the vibrant events that benefit our community.

HB 3556 introduces restrictions that could limit the funding available to these vital tourism organizations, jeopardizing the success of events that rely on these resources. This would not only harm our local economy but also limit opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy and experience all that Crook County has to offer.

We urge you to oppose HB 3556 and continue supporting the use of tourism dollars to strengthen our local economy, promote events, and enhance the experiences that make our region special.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Waring, Executive Director

Crook County Parks and Recreation District