

Submitter: Kari Westlund

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3962

I am hearing that HB 3962 is an effort to target local transient lodging taxes and open them up for broader use. This would break the longstanding partnership that the Oregon Legislature has with a statewide industry that volunteered itself to be taxed to fund economic development through the marketing of Oregon and tourism-related infrastructure and program development. The success of this partnership attracts constant threats to the funding that was volunteered, when instead it should be an inspiration that the Legislature uses as an example and should be protected for the model program that it is. This is very vague bill language and feels very threatening to the hospitality industry. It feels unfair to move and pass legislation that lacks transparency to this degree.