

## UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Paul Anderes, Commissioner R. Matthew Scarfo, Commissioner Jake Seavert, Commissioner

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer

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May 7, 2025

HB 3962

Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Reschke, Vice Chair Walters, and Committee Members:

For the record, my name is Jake Seavert, and I am a Union County Commissioner. I am writing in support of HB 3962 - 2 amendment, which requires the Legislative Revenue Officer to study issues related to local taxation. The bill directs the Legislative Revenue Officer to submit findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to revenue no later than December 1, 2026.

By changing the structure of *Transient Lodging Tax* revenue for qualified expenditures, this legislation would help allocate funds to programs and infrastructure that better serve the public and tourists visiting our communities. These resources could support enhancements in public safety and infrastructure to accommodate increasing numbers of visitors.

This shift would also ease some of the financial burden currently placed on local taxpayers, who are often responsible for funding such upgrades and improvements. By improving services for both residents and visitors, the appeal of our communities will grow—supporting future economic development and opportunity.

As we experience increased visitation, the demand for additional public safety personnel and infrastructure maintenance also rises. This legislation recognizes those needs.

In closing, I respectfully urge your support for HB 3962 - 2 amendment to ensure that small rural communities can provide the same level of public safety and infrastructure found in larger metropolitan areas, supported by a more robust tax base.

Sincerely,

Jake Seavert Union County Commissioner



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