

- TO: Representative Nathanson, Chair Representative Reschke, Vice Chair Rep. Walters, Vice Chair Members of House Committee on Revenue
- FR: Oregon District Attorneys Association
- RE: Support of HB 3962-2

May 9, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony from the Oregon District Attorneys Association (ODAA) in support of House Bill 3962-2. This bill recognizes that tourism has a significant impact on public safety which is something ODAA supports at every opportunity. By defining "tourism-impacted services" to include public safety this bill will provide counties with the flexibility to use transient lodging tax (TLT) funds to better respond to the impact tourism has on local communities.

Specifically, by spending more money on improving public safety in these communities, you also attract more tourism as families seek out safe destinations. The increase in tourism will then provide more TLD funds, which in turn allows the counties to add more infrastructure to respond to the increased demand for services. This not only makes good sense, but it also pays for itself in the long run.

We appreciate this bill's recognition that public safety should include the police department, sheriff's office, and the district attorney's office along with the fire department and search & rescue. These agencies feel the impact of tourism in their community. Whether it's seasonal or all year around the impact can be felt. Without funds to account for the increase in demand for resources, you run the risk of losing the appeal necessary for tourism to thrive.

This is an opportunity to build better communities, and we urge your support for this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to be heard.
