

Submitter:	Douglas Olson
On Behalf Of:	Self
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3962

May 8, 2025

Testimony to the Oregon House Committee On Revenue
In Support of House Bill 3962

Chair Nathanson and members of the Committee:

My name is Doug Olson. My wife and I reside in Tillamook County, our home for the past 32 years. I am a native Oregonian, born, raised, educated in our great state. I'm also a graduate of Oregon's University System. I just completed service as a Tillamook County Commissioner. I have also been elected to local public office in Oregon seven times over the last 25 years.

My spouse and I owned and operated lodging properties for 23 years in Tillamook County and I am quite familiar with lodging taxes and the tourism support system across Oregon.

Tourism is a growing and very important sector in Oregon's economy. Room / Lodging taxes administered by most cities and counties throughout Oregon are a very critical component of local government revenue which helps fund many of the important and necessary services including those required to support tourism. That includes roads, law enforcement, local infrastructure, search and rescue and so much more.

House Bill 3962 simply directs the Oregon Revenue Office to examine in detail the current room tax system together with other local revenue options across the state. There are currently restrictions in place for some jurisdictions which limit or direct how those funds must be used.

A careful examination of those restrictions together with a comprehensive analysis of our tourism industry and the funding requirement to support it is both a reasonable and necessary part of long-term administration of a critical and growing industry in Oregon.

I urge you to move HB 3962 forward and into law during the current session. The

tourism industry, visitors and the citizens of Oregon deserve nothing less than a thorough review of how a growing and important sector of Oregon's economy will be funded into the future.

Thank you!

Doug Olson
Pacific City, Oregon