

Submitter: Donna Merrill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3962

Chair Meek and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit information on the effect of HB 3962 on small businesses. I own a 9- room hotel in Prairie City, Oregon which sits at the foot of the beautiful Strawberry Mountain Range. The hotel and our breakfast cafe are a key element in the economic well-being of this small Eastern Oregon town.

I have worked hard to maintain the ambiance of the old while providing modern conveniences to our guests. As costs rise, the money to allot to advertising becomes tighter. I have appreciated that the lodging taxes—state and county—go to promote tourism which in turn supports jobs and the economy. This is crucial to our success. Please leave the allocation of the lodging tax as it is and assist in the direct marketing of tourism to the State of Oregon. This small business owner believes it is very important.

Thank you.

Donna Merrill

Owner

Historic Hotel Prairie