

Submitter: Steven Hickman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3962

As a resident and City Councilor in the City of Newport, I strongly support this bill in its current form and urge our legislators to pass it.

Simply put, cities like ours need the legislature to think long-term about the impact of tourism and allow us the flexibility to use tourist-generated dollars to invest in the very services and facilities that support and enhance these experiences. Short-term efforts to attract more tourism traffic will only be successful if they are paired with substantial long-term investments in keeping the attractions and the city safe, accessible, clean, functional and attractive. This bill gives us the capacity to responsibly maintain and enhance our cities for long-term sustainability and to address the natural wear-and-tear that tourism fosters -- on our streets, in our parks, and on our overall infrastructure. All while continuing to actively promote visitation to the city.

Let us think and act wisely to maintain our tourist-dependent local economy such that our local residents AND tourists can continue to enjoy its benefits! Vote in favor of HB 3962.