

Submitter: Ronak Patel  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3962

Chair, members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is [Your Name], and I'm a second-generation hotelier, representing the thousands of Asian American families who operate over 60% of Oregon's lodging businesses.

I'm here today because the proposed change to how transient lodging tax (TLT) funds are spent will hurt small businesses like mine—and damage the tourism economy we all rely on.

Tourism promotion is the engine that keeps our rooms filled—especially in smaller cities and rural communities. Cutting that funding means fewer visitors, lower occupancy, and less revenue. Our expenses have risen—insurance premiums have doubled, and labor costs continue to rise with minimum wage increases.

We're being asked to do more with less, while the very funds that bring people to Oregon are being pulled away.

This disproportionately hurts immigrant-owned businesses. Many of us don't have corporate marketing teams. We rely on community-based tourism programs to compete. Without them, we lose bookings, we lose staff, and some lose their livelihoods.

We understand local governments need help. But don't solve that by gutting the very revenue source tourism generates. Keep the 70/30 rule. Protect the investment in Oregon's visibility. And don't abandon the families who built this industry from the ground up.

Oppose HB3962.