

Submitter: Paul Fournier

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3962

Chair Meek, Vice-Chair McLane and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

I respectfully urge you to support HB 3962A, which proposes adjustments to the current revenue distribution percentages under our Transient Lodging Tax (TLT). Tillamook County, a small rural community rooted in dairy and timber, has experienced a transformative decade of growth thanks to a thriving tourism industry, made possible by voter-approved TLT revenue. That investment in tourism promotion and facilities worked as intended—visitors discovered the North Oregon Coast, and many have become loyal return guests.

Now, ten years later, it's time to reassess how those funds are allocated. Our county has adopted a Destination Management model, going beyond basic promotion to try to benefit both visitors and residents within the constraints of the current 70/30 split between restricted and non-restricted funds. But those limits have become a barrier. With a permanent population of roughly 25,000 that can triple on any given weekend for nearly half the year, we face substantial and growing demands on our infrastructure and public services—especially our Sheriff's Office. HB 3962A offers a practical and much-needed solution, preserving robust support for tourism while giving rural counties the flexibility to manage its impacts more effectively.

This bill is not a retreat from tourism. It's a sustainable evolution. It ensures our communities can continue to welcome visitors while maintaining the safety and quality of life our residents deserve.

Please support HB 3962A. It is a vital tool for small, tourism-dependent counties like Tillamook to balance growth with livability.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Tillamook County Commissioner Paul Fournier