

Submitter: nina sola

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

HB 2977 is the wrong solution to an internal Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) funding issue.

Please oppose HB 2977.

In Oregon, before 2003, the state tourism promotion program was funded by Oregon Lottery dollars. In 2002, the Governor asked the industry to help advertise in Europe and other foreign countries so Oregon could attract more international flights to Portland. The 2003 Legislature passed HB 2267, establishing a funding stream for the Oregon Tourism Commission with support from the hospitality industry.

Lodging operators stepped up and agreed to fund their own state agency and give the state back the lottery dollars. The Oregon Tourism Commission became one of a few state agencies funded by a direct constituency.