

Submitter: Florian Raqueno

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4148

Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 4148.

Tourism is an important economic driver in Washington County, supporting local businesses across Beaverton and the surrounding region—including restaurants, retailers, hotels, and event-related services. Visitor spending contributes directly to business revenue, supports local jobs, and generates tax revenue that benefits public services. For many small businesses, consistent visitor activity helps sustain operations and employment throughout the year.

Oregon competes regionally for visitors, events, and business travel. Continued investment in tourism promotion helps attract conferences, sporting events, and leisure travelers whose spending strengthens the local economy. Reducing tourism investment risks shifting these opportunities—and their economic benefits—to neighboring states and regions.

Strategic investment, particularly during shoulder and off-peak seasons, helps stabilize demand, supports year-round business activity, and maximizes the return on public investment. Policies that redistribute existing resources, such as HB 4148, do not expand the visitor economy or generate new economic growth.

Again, I respectfully oppose HB 4148 and urges the committee to reject this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Florian Raqueño