

Submitter: Kyle Genin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4148

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 4148. As a long-time resident of Cannon Beach and a dedicated professional in the hospitality industry, I see firsthand how vital Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) revenue is to our economic survival. This bill, which proposes to shift the mandatory split of these funds, threatens the stability of coastal economies.

Concerns Regarding Funding Reallocation

The current "70/30" split was designed to ensure that the industry generating the tax—tourism—is actually supported by it. HB 4148 proposes a drastic shift to a 40/60 split.

Local Mismanagement and Lack of Vision

My opposition is further fueled by the lack of a "progressive collective vision" from local leadership. In Cannon Beach, we have seen a trend of overspending on overpriced, upscale projects that do not reflect the immediate needs of the community or the workforce.

* Poor Fiscal Stewardship: By allowing local governments even more flexibility to divert funds into general "services," you are effectively handing a blank check to leadership that has already demonstrated a lack of reasonable spending and community-focused planning.

* Infrastructure over Community: We are seeing money funneled into buildings rather than the human infrastructure—the workers—who make this town a destination.

Conclusion

We should be focusing on how to make the tourism industry more sustainable - not raiding its promotional funds to cover general budget shortfalls or vanity projects. I urge you to vote NO on HB 4148 to protect the integrity of the hospitality industry and the communities that rely on it.

Respectfully,

Kyle Genin, Cannon Beach Oregon