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## Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce

12345 SW Main Street

Tigard, OR 97223

**February 9<sup>th</sup> 2026**

## Chair Nathanson and Members of the House Committee on Revenue,

On behalf of the Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center and the hundreds of businesses and thousands of visitors we represent respectfully we are opposed to HB 4148. The Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce represents hundreds of local businesses and organizations that collectively employ thousands of Oregonians. Our members span retail, hospitality, professional services, healthcare, manufacturing, and nonprofit sectors. We support tax and fiscal policies that encourage economic vitality, maintain Oregon's competitiveness, and protect proven tools that strengthen local economies over the long term.

HB 4148 would significantly alter the distribution of local Transient Lodging Tax revenues, weakening the very investments that drive visitor demand and generate the economic activity on which small businesses, jobs, and public services depend.

Tourism promotion plays a critical role in Washington County and across our region. Visitor spending supports local restaurants, shops, entertainment venues, service providers, and family-wage jobs. In communities like Tigard, tourism is also closely tied to events, cultural amenities, and regional attractions that bring visitors during shoulder and off-peak seasons, helping businesses maintain more consistent year-round activity.

Locally, there is active discussion about strategically investing in projects and initiatives that strengthen visitor demand during slower periods specifically because of their long-term return on investment. Dedicated Transient Lodging Tax revenues make that type of forward-looking strategy possible. The goal is not simply to sustain existing visitation, but to grow it thus stabilizing employment, supporting small businesses, and expanding the overall tax base that funds essential local services.

Tourism promotion is not a short-term or ad hoc effort. It is a targeted, data-informed strategy built on market research, visitor analytics, destination branding, and long-range planning. Competing for visitors in today's environment requires consistent and reliable investment. Disrupting that

funding reduces our effectiveness, weakens regional competitiveness, and ultimately limits the economic return communities depend on.

Preserving the integrity of these dedicated funds is not about protecting a single industry, it is about supporting a balanced local economy where small businesses can thrive, jobs are sustained, and communities can invest in the amenities that make Oregon a place people want to visit, live, and do business.

For these reasons, the Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully urges the House Committee on Revenue to oppose HB 4148.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Megan De Salvo**

Chief Executive Officer

Tigard Chamber of Commerce

Building Business. Growing Together.

