Submitter:	Sharon Konopa
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB4148

February 11, 2026

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Rep. Walters, Rep. Hudson, Rep. B. Levy, Rep. Marsh and Rep. G. Smith,

I watched online the public hearing for HB4148, the TLT split, and thank you for staying an hour longer to hear the testimony.

Please do not support this bill as written and send it to a task force committee to evaluate whether TLT needs to be modified or not, for the next session. There was some misleading information from the supporters of the bill.

Most supporters were from the coastal communities. I agree they have a natural tourist attraction to their part of Oregon. But state rules should not be made to please the needs of one part of Oregon. Explore modifying the bill to assist the coastal community for their needs.

The coastal communities currently can use some of their 70% TLT for tourism related facilities anyway. So the arguments you heard about the need for visitor facilities can already be funded by TLT.

You also heard from county law enforcement. Shifting TLT funds for operations is not going to solve the overall financial need within law enforcements budgets. It might help the coastal communities, but it is not needed east of the coast range.

Now from my long-time experience with city budgets, it might look simple on your part to shift the percentages, but are you going to track annually the split to make sure cities comply with the state rule?

Example:

- Currently a cities law enforcement budget is mostly from property taxes. If they receive the increased TLT allocation, will they increase staffing in their current law enforcement budgets?
- How will the State know if they increased their staffing without an annual audit review?
- The State would have to see their current funding from property taxes and their funded FTE's. Then how many FTE's are increased from TLT. If no increase, then I guarantee a city will shift the TLT amount that property taxes paid into the

police budget to backfill their central services/ administrative costs.
- Will the State Treasurer or Secretary of State's offices have that burden to review every budget over the TLT's split to see where the increase is being spent?
- Within five years from rising costs of inflation and benefits the cities will be back for more funds. What really has it accomplished by this bill, except a gutted tourism program?

So my point, is the State going to review every city and counties budget annually to make sure they are not using the TLT to back fill other general fund programs?

Also keep in mind, when a mayor testifies does not mean their whole city council agrees. Their testimony would need to be stated, on behalf of the city council or using their city's letterhead. If it is their personal city desk letterhead, then that represents themselves only.

You also heard an argument about trusting community leaders in making the best decisions for the future. That is not reality nowadays, every two years elected officials can come and go, and you have no guarantee those TLT funds would be spent wisely.

I will mention again, if you reduce the tourism allocation, you will reduce many communities' activities, like Albany's. We will have less expo events, festivals, concerts and more.

Please vote no and work with the tourism industry and cities to find a workable solution. This bill does not!

Thank you for your service,
Sharon Konopa
Former Mayor of Albany