

Submitter: Tejal Patel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4148

Dear Members of the House Committee on Revenue,

My name is Tejal Patel, and I am the owner and operator of Parkway Inn in the Eugene area. I am writing to strongly oppose HB 4134.

I immigrated to this country to pursue the American Dream, and for my family, that dream is this motel. We do not just own this business; we live here. We are a small, family-run operation. My spouse, my children, and I are the housekeepers, the maintenance crew, and the front desk clerks. We work hard, 7 days a week, to provide a clean, affordable place for travelers to stay.

Our margins are already under heavy pressure from rising utility costs, insurance, and inflation. We serve budget-conscious travelers, families, workers, and seniors, who choose us because every dollar matters to them.

HB 4134 would hurt our business in two ways:

Price Sensitivity: A 1.25% increase may seem small, but for our guests, it is another reason to keep driving or stay elsewhere. When taxes go up, our occupancy goes down.

Administrative Burden: Small motels like ours do not have accounting departments. We are already struggling to keep up with the paperwork of existing local and state taxes. This bill adds more complexity to a family that is already exhausted.

We love Oregon's wildlife and natural beauty, but it is not fair to fund statewide conservation goals by placing the burden on the backs of small, immigrant-owned family businesses. We are struggling to survive as it is.

I respectfully ask you to vote NO on HB 4134 and look for a more equitable way to fund these programs that doesn't threaten the survival of small independent motels.

Sincerely,
Tejal Patel