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MEGAN DE SALVO
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Springfield Area
Chamber

JOHN OLSON
McMinnville Area
Chamber

JIM PAINO
Cannon Beach Chamber

March 3, 2026

Dear Senator,

We, the undersigned Chamber of Commerce leaders from across Oregon, wish to engage you one final time on the issue of Transient Lodging Taxes.

We respectfully ask you to support the Minority Report on HB 4148, as it deletes a potentially fatal flaw in the bill – the ‘business resiliency’ grants that our businesses did not ask for. There is a realistic possibility these grants may be used to zero out or completely degrade local tourism promotion.

There are massive changes pending in front of you – HB 4134 to increase the state TLT to add five new state agencies as recipients of TLT funds, and HB 4148 to change the local TLT distribution formula away from local tourism promotion.

Our Chambers collectively opposed both bills as we have been on the front lines of promoting our communities for many years and have grave concerns about the impact of these bills in tandem as it relates to the economic vitality of our communities.

It is important to understand that tourism is a traded sector – it imports dollars into our communities from visitors – and for better or worse, it has been a pillar of local economic growth absent the growth of traditional traded sector industry.

Many businesses and jobs are supported in our communities due to the well-functioning and well-proven system of tourism promotion and investments that have served our state and our communities for over two decades – a system that will now be significantly disrupted and potentially degraded with the passage of HB 4134 and HB 4148 in tandem.

We would caution the Senate to understand that we cannot be assured of the same level of success and growth in our tourism sector absent the continued and sustained investment that we’ve proudly delivered on over the past 20 years.

We understand that the political tides are very strong in support of HB 4134 and HB 4148 and we have come to grips with that.

In an attempt to work on the margins to prevent any further deterioration in our ability to deliver sustained tourism growth and the corresponding benefits to our local businesses and jobs, we ask you to please remove the option of “resilience grants” in HB 4148. **The only avenue to do so is by adopting the Minority Report on HB 4148.**



Our respective tourism sectors did not request these grants, nor would we support these grants to ever be implemented in lieu of actual tourism promotion. We don't believe it should even be an option.

To be clear: We need visitors and customers on the front end - not grants on the back end.

In other words, we need the TLT revenues dedicated to tourism promotion to do what they were intended to do – promote our communities and drive visitor spending. No other use should be considered for these dollars.

In summary, we know that significant changes are coming. We ask that you would make this one, final adjustment to HB 4148 to give us certainty in our revenue streams so we can deliver for our communities. Please adopt the Minority Report to House Bill 4148.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alicia M. Bermes".

Alicia Bermes
President & CEO
Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anneleah Jaxen, CEO".

Anneleah Jaxen
CEO
Tualatin Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bettina Hannigan".

Bettina Hannigan
President & CEO
Florence Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brittany Quick-Warner".

Brittany Quick-Warner
President & CEO
Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carmelle Bielenberg".

Carmelle Bielenberg
President & CEO
Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryl Viola".

Cheryl Viola
CEO
Pendleton Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah L. Shaw".

Deb Shaw
Director of Commerce & Tourism
Prineville Crook County Chamber of
Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrea Weaver".

Andrea Weaver
Tourism Development Specialist
Prineville Crook County Chamber of
Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debra Fromdahl".

Debra Fromdahl
President & CEO
Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eli Matthews".

Eli Matthews
President & CEO
The Chamber of Medford/Jackson
County

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Georgia Haskell".

Georgia Haskell
CEO
Cottage Grove Area Chamber of
Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J.S. Jones".

Jay Jones
President & CEO
North Clackamas Chamber of
Commerce



Jennifer Piper
Executive Director
Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce

John Olson
President & CEO
McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce

Josh Tompkins
President & CEO
Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Josiah Barron
Executive Director
Umatilla Chamber of Commerce

Lisa Farquharson
CEO
The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce

Liz Hartman
CEO
Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce

Lori Arce Torres
Executive Director
Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce

Lynn Snodgrass
CEO
Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

Megan De Salvo
CEO
Tigard Area Chamber of Commerce

Renee Thatcher

Renee Thatcher
Executive Director
Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce

Scott Parker
Executive Director
Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce

Tammy Bremner
Executive Director
Grant County Chamber of Commerce

Tara Townley
Executive Director
Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce

Terry Hopkins
President & CEO
Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce

Tom Hoffert
CEO
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce

Vonnie Mikkelsen
President & CEO
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce

Shatrine Krake
CEO
Canby Area Chamber of Commerce

Jordan Belozar
Director
Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacy Palmer".

Stacy Palmer
Executive Director
Silverton Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristine Thomas".

Kristine Thomas
Executive Director
Sunriver Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Slattery".

Sandra Slattery
Executive Director
Ashland Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rosey Thomas".

Rosey Thomas
Executive Director
Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Aufdermauer".

Justin Aufdermauer
Executive Director
Tillamook Chamber of Commerce