

Submitter: Peter Kenagy
On Behalf Of: self and my kids
Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3556

Members of the committee .

I am strongly in support of this measure, it is long overdue.

For the record my name is Peter Kenagy and I have lived in Benton & Linn Co the whole of my 65 yr life. I used to enjoy going to the coast and I still sort of do. But every time I go, the traffic congestion and crowds make it less and less of a positive experience. I can only imagine the headaches the longterm residents must deal with.

The legislators and officials who testified in support of HB3556 made a compelling and common sense case. Please listen to them.

As someone who spends a night or two a year in a hotel at the coast I find it very disconcerting that 70% of the transient lodging tax that I pay goes to encouraging over tourism .

In my humble opinion the current distribution of the tax only benefits a small contingent of the population, (primarily the beneficiaries of the advertising dollars). Oregon is attractive enough on its own, tourism will not tank with the loss of those advertising dollars. But the residents will greatly benefit from them.

The beauty of HB3556 is that it gives local municipality's the choice of what is more important to them, more tourism or more money to build sustainable vibrant communities that they can continue to enjoy living in.

This is a common sense low risk bill that deserves to be passed, indeed cities should not be forced to spend a single dollar on tourism . It should be their choice.

Please move this bill with a do pass recommendation .

Thank you for your service and your engagement with the witnesses.