

Transient Lodging Tax work group

September 20, 2016
12:00 P.M.

Hearing Room 167 A

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Nancy Nathanson Danielle Cowan, Executive
 Rep. John Davis Director, Clackamas
 Sen. Hansell County Tourism &
 Sen. Monroe Cultural Affairs
 Mary Pat Parker, Visit Corvallis
 Alice Trindle, Eastern Oregon
 Visitors Association
 Alana Hughson, CEO, Central
 Oregon Visitors
 Association;
 Scott Youngblood, Embassy
 Suites Tigard; Member,
 Oregon Tourism
 Commission
 Jeff Miller, Travel Portland

STAFF PRESENT: Paul Warner, Legislative Revenue Officer
 Mazen Malik, Senior Economist, LRO
 Corinne Gavette, LRO Office Manager

Paul Warner, LRO opened the meeting.

Mazen Malik gave an overview of last meeting's items and discussions.

- I. **Frequency of Distributions:** Xann Culver from Dept. of Revenue gave an overview of how money is distributed to their organization. Todd Davidson, Travel Oregon gave overview of distribution criteria. Regional budgets are due in June. Travel Oregon distributes the money to regions by projections from their forecast. They use calendar collections instead of forecasting, for everyone to build their budgets. There is a six month's lag from collections until distribution. All agreed that the current cycle of distribution is working as-is.
- II. **Regional tourism boundaries:** Individual regions would like to have more autonomy in how they spend their funds. They don't want to be dictated to by Travel Oregon on specifics (more flexibility). Scott Youngblood, who is a member of the Tourism Commission, said they will work toward flexibility that every region needs. Alice Tindle of Eastern Oregon would like her region to be subdivided into at least four regions, as the distances are huge. This tax may generate \$30 Million. The group agreed that no statutory change is needed for this section concerning boundaries.
- III. **The bill may be a Revenue Committee bill, which will have to be given to Leg. Counsel by Monday September 27th deadline.**

- IV. Recreational liability is still an issue that has not been discussed. It may have to be a separate bill through another committee.**
- V. Next meeting may be in Portland.**