

Notice of Measure Election

County

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JOSEPHINE COUNTY CLERK

17-90

SEL 801

rev 01/18: ORS 250.035, 250.041,
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

Notice

Date of Notice

March 6, 2019

Name of County or Counties

Josephine County

Date of Election

May 21, 2019

Final Ballot Title The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Advisory Question on a County Lodging Tax

Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

In your opinion, should Josephine County begin the process to collect a tax on overnight lodging?

Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

The outcome of this advisory question will not be binding. It will provide information to the Commissioners while the Board formulates policy.

Oregon law allows local governments to collect a tax on temporary lodging at a hotel, motel, campsite, vacation rental home, or lodging reserved through online reservation companies. The tax is known as a Transient Lodging tax. Josephine County presently does not collect taxes on lodging in the county.

Before collecting a county lodging tax, the Board of Commissioners would hold public hearings on an Ordinance. The Board would also be required to get approval of the voters.

Under current Oregon law, the County would have to use at least 70 percent of the net revenue from the tax to fund tourism promotion or tourism related facilities, or to pay debt related to tourism facilities. The County could use the remaining 30 percent to fund general county services.

The outcome of this nonbinding question will not affect property taxes.

Explanatory Statement 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:

→ any measure referred by the county governing body; or

→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

Explanatory Statement Attached?

Yes

No

Authorized County Official Not required to be notarized.

Name

M. Wally Hicks

Title

County Legal Counsel

Mailing Address

500 NW Sixth Street, Dept. 13, Grants Pass, OR 97526

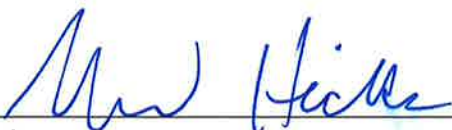
Contact Phone

541-474-5226

By signing this document:

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the county to submit this Notice of Measure Election; and

→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.



Signature

March 6, 2019

Date Signed

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Ballot Title Caption Advisory Question on a County Lodging Tax

Measure No. 17.90

Word Total (500 max) 209

The State of Oregon collects the lodging taxes on hotel and motel rooms throughout the state. State law also allows cities and counties to collect such taxes, and a number of them collect the tax. Josephine County does not currently collect a tax on hotel room rentals, but the City of Grants Pass does.

Under state law, the term "transient lodging" includes hotel and motel rooms, spaces used for overnight parking of recreational vehicles, and tent spaces. The term also includes houses, condominiums, and apartments that are rented out for temporary lodging. In those cases, the tax is often paid by the intermediary company that handles the booking process.

State law directs how the revenue from such taxes may be used. Under current law, 70 per cent of such revenue must be used for tourist and tourism related matters. A certain percentage may be used for other county purposes. Under current law, the motel or hotel operator or booking intermediary would collect the tax and would retain a certain percentage to offset their expenses in keeping the records necessary to manage the process of collection and payment to the County.

The County would be required to follow state law in any use of the revenue derived from the tax.

Board of County Commissioners
Person responsible for the content of the Statement

Josephine County
Name of the Government Body person represents