



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 11/03/11
Agenda Item #: R.1
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am
Date Submitted: 10/17/11

Agenda Title: **Authorizing the County Attorney to Join in a Lawsuit Against Online Travel Companies.**

Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title.

Requested Meeting Date: November 3, 2011 **Amount of Time Needed:** 5 minutes
Department: Non-Departmental **Division:** County Attorney
Contact(s): Jenny Morf
Phone: (503) 988-3138 **Ext.** 83138 **I/O Address:** 503/5/500
Presenter(s): Jacquie Weber, Deputy County Attorney

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approval for County Attorney to join in a lawsuit to collect transient lodging taxes from On-line travel companies ("OTC").

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

OTCs collect transient lodging taxes in connection with hotel rentals. Although the tax is collected from consumers, it is not passed onto the County as required by Ordinance. The County seeks to join a lawsuit requesting that OTCs be required to remit the taxes collected.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

An immediate financial impact is not anticipated because most of the taxes collected are passed through to cities and/or Metro.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

On February 22, 2007, the Board adopted Resolution 07-037 delegating to the County Attorney authority to initiate legal proceedings upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

The City of Portland will also be a plaintiff in the case.

Required Signature

**Elected Official or
Department/
Agency Director:**



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