

RPC 2019-005      A Resolution Calling for Hotels and Other Short Term Housing  
to Announce and Explain All Fees When Quoting a Reservation

- (A) WHEREAS, Many hotels in Oregon charge separate fees from just the room cost per night including things labeled as “taxes and fees” “resort fees” “hotel fees” and others;
- (B) WHEREAS, These fees are often hidden and come as a surprise to guests who are frequently not required to pay the fee until they arrive at their destination or when they attempt to check out;
- (C) WHEREAS, This misleading business practice damages the reputation of the travel & tourism industry in the state; and
- (D) WHEREAS, These fees can substantially increase the cost of a reservation<sup>1</sup>;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon, Resolve as follows:

We call on all State Representatives and Senators representing any part of Washington County to create or support a bill requiring all hotels and other short term housing to have their advertised rate be inclusive of all taxes and fees, and to also explain exactly what they will be charging, during the time of the reservation quote, in a simple and understandable way describing exactly what each additional expense beyond the cost for the room is, and who is assessing it.

*Resolution submitted by Kyle Martin, R&PC Chair – February 27, 2019*  
*Approved by R&PC – May 7, 2019*

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<sup>1</sup> The Benson Hotel in Portland for example charges a \$28.83 “resort fee” or “hotel fee” depending on where booked as well as a varying taxes and fees charge. Portland and Multnomah County combined only charge an 11.5% tax on bookings, which during examination was always less than the amount charged by the hotel.