



July 9, 2015

SHORELINE
CITY COUNCIL

Shari Winstead
Mayor

Chris Eggen
Deputy Mayor

Will Hall

Doris McConnell

Keith A. McGlashan

Chris Roberts

Jesse Salomon

The Honorable Jim McDermott
U.S. House of Representatives
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McDermott:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Shoreline to request your cosponsorship of H.R. 2775, the Remote Transactions Parity Act.

Sales tax fairness has been a top priority for cities for more than a decade. H.R. 2775 would eliminate a loophole that distorts competition by unfairly favoring remote internet-based retailers over local brick and mortar stores. Nationally, the impact of this loophole to cities is estimated to be more than \$26 billion. For the City of Shoreline, the annual impact is estimated to be \$183,431.

These revenues do not represent a new tax. Instead, the bill allows local municipalities to collect the owed sales tax revenue from purchases made within its jurisdiction. These funds are critical to the general budget needs of our city as we prepare for light rail and increased density in our community.

Last year, similar legislation passed the U.S. Senate on a bipartisan basis but did not come to the floor for a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives. We discussed this issue with you when we met with you earlier this year and you indicated your general support for the policy. For that reason, we ask that you join with Reps. Heck, Kilmer and DelBene in cosponsoring H.R. 2775.

We appreciate your genuine interest in the needs of our community. You are an integral partner in our future and your continued support is important to our success. We look forward continuing the discussion of how we may best partner to serve our shared constituents.

Sincerely,

Mayor Shari Winstead

cc: Shoreline City Council
City Manager Debbie Tarry
Intergovernmental Relations Manager Scott MacColl