



House Committee on Revenue
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

February 2, 2026

Re: HB 4134-1 (Increases the state transient lodging tax)

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Wildlife Coalition submits this testimony **in support of HB 4134-1**. Members of the Oregon Wildlife Coalition include Bird Alliance of Oregon, Cascadia Wildlands, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Voters Oregon, Humane World for Animals, Oregon Wild, Think Wild, Western Environmental Law Center and Willamette Riverkeeper.

Oregon is fortunate to be home to a diverse array of fish and wildlife species and the habitats they rely on. Our natural environment is one of the many reasons Oregon is a premier place to visit and live, and it is the backbone of our thriving tourist economy, which generated \$16 billion in consumer spending and supported 192,000 jobs statewide in [2024](#). However, growing threats from climate change, invasive species, habitat loss and fragmentation, and other human-made and natural-caused impacts, are taking a toll on native wildlife's ability to thrive. One indicator of the state of our environment is the Oregon Department of Wildlife's (ODFW) annual assessment of Oregon's imperiled species, and this year, the Department [identified 321 species of greatest conservation need](#) in our state, [a jump of 27 from 2016](#). As our environment increasingly suffers, so will our economy, which draws visitors every year to, for example, watch [gray whales](#) swimming along the coast or [tufted puffins](#) at Haystack Rock, both of which ODFW identified as imperiled.

HB 4134 is an groundbreaking way to begin to reverse these declines. The bill would establish dedicated and sustained funding to conserve and recover Oregon's imperiled wildlife and habitats. And as the environment recovers, we'll see more visitors and residents traveling and moving to Oregon to experience and live alongside our environment.

Governor Kotek wrote in her [Prosperity Roadmap](#) that, "our exceptional quality of life, marked by clean air, abundant fresh water, and a stunning natural environment, makes it not only a smart place to do business but also a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family." We agree. HB 4134 provides sustained funding for ODFW to conserve and recover Oregon's most vulnerable wildlife and habitat and will help further improve Oregon's exceptional quality of life.

We urge you to **vote YES on HB 4134-1**.

Sincerely,

*Bird Alliance of Oregon
Cascadia Wildlands
Defenders of Wildlife*

*Humane Voters Oregon
Think Wild
Oregon Wild*

*Western Environmental Law Center
Willamette Riverkeeper
Humane World for Animals*