

Submitter: Annaka Jahn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

To Chair Nathanson and members of the House Committee on Revenue,
My name is Annaka and I live in Boardman, Oregon. I am submitting this testimony in enthusiastic

support of HB 4134 with the -1 amendment to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and help recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Securing long-term dedicated funding for wildlife and habitats protection, is strongly supported by a majority of Oregonians. The funding would not only help wildlife and habitats, but also support local communities and businesses that rely on tourism dollars. Oregon's vast and varied outdoor tourism economy supports nearly 200,000 jobs and brings in \$16 billion in consumer spending. From my very first visit here before I moved to Oregon years ago, nature and wildlife were at the forefront of every activity I planned to do during my trip. Investing in these resources now will continue to generate more economic opportunities for Oregon's communities in the future.

As I'm sure you are well aware, we cannot have a thriving tourism economy without healthy and abundant fish, wildlife, and the habitats that support them like lakes and rivers! This legislation would ensure we have both. At a time when the federal government is slashing funds and dismantling policies that protect our vulnerable fish and wildlife in their habitats, Oregon has a chance to set an example and protect our natural heritage. Doing so would make Oregon a national leader. I can assure you that the rest of the states are watching, and expect us to do the right thing and treat our land with respect and dignity, protecting fish and animal species as much as possible. I ask you today to please support "1.25% for Wildlife" by passing HB 4134 today.

With gratitude,
Annaka Jahn