

Submitter:

Spencer Bailey

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

To the Members of the House Revenue Committee:

My name is Spencer W Bailey, and I am a resident of Bend, OR. I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed wildlife funding legislation.

As an Oregonian, I view our state's diverse wildlife, from our coastal whales to the pollinators in our valleys and the fowl of the high desert, as a vital part of our economic infrastructure. This bill is a common-sense investment for several reasons:

**Fiscal Responsibility:** It is far more cost-effective to protect species now than to fund "emergency room" recovery efforts once they reach the brink of extinction.

**Agricultural Support:** Our state's farmers depend on healthy populations of bats and pollinators. Funding their conservation is, quite literally, funding our food security.

**Climate Resilience:** Restoring habitats helps mitigate the rising costs of natural disasters like wildfires and flooding, protecting both lives and property.

The proposed 1.25% lodging fee is a negligible cost to visitors that yields a massive return for the landscapes they come here to enjoy. I urge the committee to move this bill forward to ensure Oregon remains a leader in conservation and a resilient home for future generations of outdoor lovers and agricultural prosperity.

Thank you.