

Submitter: Nora Bissonnette  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Nora Bissonnette  
Regarding House Bill 4134  
February 2nd 2026

My name is Nora Bissonnette, and I am testifying in support of House Bill 4134. I am a graduate student currently pursuing a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine with a focus on large animal practice at Oregon State University. My future career is dependent on the continuing health of Oregon's natural and agricultural lands. Livestock and large companion animals require room to move and land to graze. Both the animals and their caretakers are deeply impacted by invasive species, conflict with wildlife, and wildfires.

I have witnessed the devastation caused by wildfires in Oregon firsthand, both as an evacuee forced to abandon my home as flames crested the ridge overlooking my hometown, McKenzie Bridge, in 2023, and as an animal care provider in both Eugene and Corvallis, trying my best to manage the symptoms of prolonged smoke exposure in horses and other livestock. August and September have changed from the golden months of summer I enjoyed before returning to school as a child to fire season, a constant threat hanging over all of Oregon's rural residents year after year.

People visit Oregon for the nature, to see the wildlife, and to hike, raft, and camp in our state's breathtaking wilderness. No one, tourists or long-time Oregon residents, will be able to continue enjoying the opportunities provided by these lands once they burn down. An increased tax on short-term rentals will directly protect and support the natural areas people come here to experience, while also supporting Oregon farmers through increased funding for wildfire prevention, invasive species management, and wildlife conflict prevention measures. I believe Oregon's rural communities, wild lands, and agricultural longevity are worth investing in, and if you eat food, you should too.