

Submitter: LeAnn Magee
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Esteemed Committee Members,

As an Environmental Educator with my local Parks and Recreation District, and a public school educator for 25 years, it is immensely important to me to practice what I teach. Oregon's unique and vibrant ecosystems are truly special, and provide a healthy core to extended niches throughout the Northwest temperate zone. We must protect all aspects of this intricate web, because even one tiny species can alter a biome dramatically. Our keystone species show how this is true, and these cases are well documented. Once a piece of the puzzle has been removed, a trophic cascade is imminent. These catastrophes affect our beautiful environment, but just as equally, they affect our citizens. Protecting fragile species also upholds our economy, through fisheries, farming, and tourism. It is an easy answer to fund this important work through hotel taxes, as our tourists come to Oregon to enjoy the beauty of our wild places. Please vote with intention to protect all Oregonians: human, animal and plant. I will continue to educate our children in how to preserve your work for the next generations.

With sincere gratitude,
LeAnn Magee