

Submitter: Alexandra Craft
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Chair Nathanson,

I have a request today. I see that HB 4134 is coming up for consideration in the House Committee on Revenue. I strongly support this measure. What motivates me to write is that this bill will help address the growing problem of wildfire smoke in Portland. As the mom of a three-year-old, I am concerned about the lengthening fire season and the increasing number of unhealthy air days in our community. This past summer, we had to cancel way too many restaurant outings, days in the parks, and visits to cultural events in Portland. I really appreciate that for the first time a special Oregon focused Conservation Corps will be developed and create local jobs where people will clear the excess vegetation around our homes, plant more trees to reduce the heat island effects we are facing in Portland and help all of us invest in home hardening that according to our State Fire Marshal is essential to reducing community risk of house to house fires which are becoming more common here in Oregon and across the west.

The smoke-filled days must also be terrible for those thinking about recreating here in Oregon. The pictures of smoke-clogged skies are not a seller for the tourism industry, let alone business in general. I, for one, am excited to finally see legislation that directly improves my family's health amid escalating climate risks.

As you can see, it is close to my family and me.

Alex

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