

Submitter: Jane Bicquette

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Dear Oregon State House Revenue Committee,

I ask for your support and passage of HB 4134, the "1.25% for Wildlife" Bill.

Our economy in Oregon is tightly bound with Oregon's natural beauty. Preserving habitats for wildlife is more crucial than ever before. With wildfires, extensive development, and the threats coming from the federal government to destroy public lands, Oregon must step up to preserve exactly what makes this a worthwhile place to live, for humans and for wildlife.

Adding this lodging tax does NOT tax all Oregonians, and only taxes those that do some traveling in Oregon. We already have one of the lowest lodging taxes in the country and adding this small percentage will still keep us in third lowest lodging tax in the country. This is such a small price to pay for such a huge step forward, preserving Oregon's natural beauty for visitors from all over the country and the world, and for our future generations.

This investment in the present and future economy of Oregon is vital.

I live in a rural area. I keep in contact with neighbors and we are all delighted when we see or hear wildlife in our area. This makes our area more valuable. Just today, a bobcat was sighted nearby! How exciting and wonderful to coexist with such wildlife. I have Great Horned Owls that live nearby and have nested in our trees. There is a pair of herons that frequent our pastures, hunting for mice. We value wildlife and want to see habitats preserved in all of Oregon.

Please, support and pass HB 4134.

Thank you.

Jane Bicquette

Sherwood, OR