

Submitter: Hillary Tiefer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Please support HB 4134 that would add a modest 1.25% increase to Oregon's state transient lodging tax, with funds dedicated specifically to wildlife conservation and coexistence efforts, including: reducing and prioritizing nonlethal remedies to wildlife conflict; strengthening anti-poaching enforcement; supporting habitat connectivity and restoration, investing in programs that benefit both wildlife and communities (Humane World for Animals." About 65% of this would be paid by non-Oregonians visiting the state. Oregon would still rank among the lowest lodging tax states in the country.

Wildlife is now particularly vulnerable to the forces of greed. When species die out it is forever. Please consider the plea of the 19th century poet Gerard Manley Hopkins:

What would the world be, once bereft
Of wet and wildness? Let them be left,
O let them be left, wildness and wet;
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.