

Submitter:

Jennifer Wolfsong

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Dear House Committee Members,

I am writing today to urge you to pass HB 4134 which would provide much needed funding to protect Oregon's wildlife and thereby protect human health and our quality of life we know and love as Oregonians. As we are all aware, our planet is suffering from many environmental crises from climate change, to habitat destruction, to plastic and other pollution, among many others. These human-caused crises have lead to another crisis-- a mass extinction event, in which species are currently going extinct at a rate anywhere between 1,000-10,000 times higher than would occur naturally. <https://www.popsci.com/environment/are-we-in-a-sixth-mass-extinction/> However, although dire, we have the ability, opportunity, and responsibility to change the course for Oregon's 300 vulnerable species and to protect our health, recreation and livelihoods at the same time. Humans developed and evolved alongside our fellow species and it is reckless and wrong to assume that we can thrive without them. We are dependent on earth's rich biodiversity for the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we produce, the cures we discover, and the beauty we see. We are at a crossroads and should be utilizing every tool and resource we can to save our planet and its precious biodiversity. I would enthusiastically and joyfully pay a few dollars extra for my lodging to preserve Oregon's wildlife, natural beauty, bounty, and quality of life for generations to come. Please support HB 4134. Thank you for your time.