

Submitter: Alyson Berman  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Dear House Committee on Revenue,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for HB 4134, 1.25% for Wildlife. I care deeply about wildlife and the economic health of our state. Supporting this bill does both. As someone who travels to the coast during every king tide in the spring and summer, and spends money to for lodging, food, and other expenses, I can say that I am one of the people who will be paying more. And I'm willing. Last year, for the first time, I saw my first ever Sunflower Sea Star, one of the species that has been decimated by sea star wasting disease. The money raised from HB 4134 would help this species, and hundreds more, in addition to the habitats they need to survive. Wildlife is a major driver of Oregon tourism. Just think of how many people go to see the Tufted Puffin at Haystack Rock every year. And yet, Tufted Puffin populations have dropped more than 80% in the last thirty years. Oregon doesn't have the money to give threatened wildlife the help they need. This does it, and would keep us as the state with the third lowest tourism tax in the country. It's a small price to pay for a much bigger payoff for our economy - keeping wildlife healthy and restoring populations so people continue to travel here and to rural parts of our state to see these amazing animals.

Thank you for your time. Please vote yes to pass HB 4134.

Alyson Berman