

Submitter:

Tina Lassen

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

I am in strong support of HB 4134 with the -1 amendment, to increase the state lodging tax to provide funding for Oregon wildlife and habitat.

As a 25-year resident of Hood River, I have seen an enormous increase in tourism visitation to our small community. It has increased TRT funding to be sure, but has also had a negative impact on our surrounding natural resources in terms of crowds, litter, trail damage and so on. It seems only right that some of the TRT funds be dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing Oregon outdoors. Our beautiful landscapes and wildlife are what make Oregon truly special, and a remarkable place to live and recreate. This is a rare opportunity to ensure that these places stay healthy and Oregonians can continue to celebrate our state's extraordinary natural beauty.

Please remember that you represent all Oregon residents, not only those who benefit from tourism. Supporting HB4134 would be a valuable and logical way to protect something we ALL value. Thank you.