

Submitter: Julianne Merrill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the committee,

Please support and pass HB 4134 out of committee.

This policy is a common sense solution to develop a long-term revenue stream to support wildlife conservation and natural resource management across the state—funded by tourists who largely come to Oregon to enjoy the natural environment. This tax increase on transient lodging is minor, and the new tax would still be well below the national average of 15%. Tourists would gladly pay this price if it meant that it would help the state make meaningful progress protecting Oregon's invaluable and unique wildlife and ecosystems. This funding will be extremely impactful for so many important initiatives, including wildlife crossings and rehabilitation, wolf depredation, invasive species control, conserving threatened and endangered species, marine conservation, etc.

Thank you for your support moving this historic revenue stream forward, to the benefit of tourists, Oregonians, and wildlife alike.

Sincerely,
Julianne Merrill
Bend resident