

Submitter:

Denise Duren

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Testimony in Support of HB 4134

To: Chair Nathanson and the House Committee on Revenue

My name is Denise Duren from Salem, Oregon. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 4134 (with the -1 amendment).

Oregon's identity is built on our natural heritage. People travel from all over the world to experience our landscapes, and that tourism drives \$16 billion in spending and supports nearly 200,000 jobs. However, we cannot have a thriving outdoor economy without healthy fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Why this matters:

- * Economic Investment: A 1.25% lodging tax is a small price to pay to protect the very resources that generate 2.6% of our state's GDP.

- * Urgency: With federal protections and funding at risk, Oregon must step up as a national leader to protect our biodiversity.

- * Legacy: This is a rare opportunity to secure long-term funding so that Oregon remains "Oregon" for future generations.

I urge you to pass HB 4134 -1 this session. Let's invest in the natural legacy that makes our state so special.