

Submitter: Alison Highberger

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I'm Alison Highberger, a 69-year-old who lived in Bend, OR for three years, 20 years ago, and who just moved back permanently to Bend three months ago because it is such a special place to my family and me. After living in Bend for three years, 20 years ago, a job took our family to Spokane, WA for 17 years, but we visited Central Oregon every year for those 17 years because of its natural beauty, remarkable outdoor recreation, and cultural amenities. I strongly support HB 4134, 1.25% for Wildlife, increasing the state lodging tax to help recover Oregon's most at-risk species and habitats, including sagebrush ecosystems, connected wildlife corridors, and resilient landscapes that support biodiversity statewide. You can't have a healthy economy in Oregon without healthy nature. It makes sense to me that investing now with this opportunity will help Oregon's communities in the future. Please vote YES on HB 4134 to protect our natural treasures and make Oregon a leader in protecting biodiversity, wildfire risk mitigation and supporting wildlife.