

Submitter:

Chris Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Thank you for considering this testimony. I fully support an increase in the lodging tax in order to support and protect Oregon's wildlife. I am an avid birder and camper and enjoy all of the various habitats and ecosystems Oregon has to offer. Climate change and increased tourism threaten Oregon's ecosystems. In Bend, we have had a marked decrease in bird activity over the years I have lived here. Such events as the heat domes of June 2021 and June/July 2024 overly stress breeding birds putting their very survival in jeopardy. When that is paired with habitat loss the reasons for the decline in birds is easy to see. Putting dedicated money toward protecting habitat for wildlife will at least help mitigate the effects of overuse and climate. I appreciate your consideration.