

Submitter:	Susan Tone
On Behalf Of:	myself
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB4134

My name is Susan Tone and I am a resident of Nehalem here on the beautiful North Oregon Coast. I'm writing in strong support of HB 4134 with the -1 amendment to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and help recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats. Tillamook County, where I reside, is a popular tourist destination. People come here to enjoy the natural beauty, the parks, the beaches, the forest. A connection with nature DRIVES our tourist economy. Maintaining, supporting, and improving our natural resources is vital to growing our tourist economy. The nominal increase in cost to visitors will scarcely be noted by someone planning a vacation here. But the returns to our state in providing much needed funding will be enormous. In a time when state budgets are in crisis, it's vital to find new sources of funding for worthy causes, especially for the health of our environment which often gets shunted to the back of the line. HB4134 provides much needed funding for wildlife, conservation, restoration projects.

Please support HB4134 so Oregon can afford to invest in work that is essential to keeping our ecosystems whole and thriving.

Thank you for considering my views.

Susan Tone
Nehalem, OR