

This is a testimony in support of house bill HB4134-1

To: Chair Nathensen

Vice Chairs: Reschke, Walters, and Members of the Committee

Amber Rader, Sunnyside Environmental Middle School

Dear Chair Nathensen and Members of the Committee”

My name is Amber, and I am a student at Sunnyside Environmental School in SE Portland. I am testifying in support of house bill HB4134-1.

I am kayaking on a beautiful river with a sunrise ahead of me and a forest on either side that is alight with a golden glow. I see a deer on one side, ears up and watching me. At this moment in time I remember feeling a wave of peace and joy washing over me. These memories are the kind I want to last forever, but I’m afraid that if we don’t take action, I’ll never be able to make another memory like this one. That’s why I am telling you this right now, and why I believe that’s why we should take any action possible to save countless species from extinction.

I love animals, I have since I was old enough to read about the ecosystems in the forest in national geographics. But it was only recently that I was able to see these ecosystems with my own eyes and learn about them in the wild. But learning about how amazing ecosystems are also comes with learning how they are being crumbling, and by humans no less.

Every time I learn about another species gone forever due to loss of territory, or pollution, or over fishing, I feel devastated, but this program, Environment Oregon gives me hope that another animal will be saved, or another ecosystem will thrive as it should. I truly think that even if this tax is a small one it could make a big difference in what Environment Oregon will be able to accomplish to save the wildlife that I want to continue watching thriving in their natural environment.

I urge you to support HB4134-1.

Sincerely,
Amber