

Submitter:

Kira Davis

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4148

I am writing to urge our representatives to vote in support of raising the lodging tax to protect our wildlife. Oregon is one of the most unique places in all of the united states, being the only state to have all 4 biomes. We host a diverse cast of native wildlife and precious wetlands that local organizations fight every day to preserve with thousands of volunteer hours. Their efforts make a difference, but they are the few among our citizens who can or will contribute. Raising the tax will generate money to aid their mission to preserve our unique ecosystem. At a time where federal protections are being stripped more every year, we need support for the creatures that live here now more than ever. Maintaining a balanced ecosystem not only impacts wildlife, but us as well. When imbalanced, the effect trickles down throughout the food web, creating more trouble for humans. Pollinators may suffer, pests may boom without owls hunting them, and many more roadway accidents leading to human and animal deaths may occur as a result of further reduced habitats. This money will make a world of difference.

Please consider voting in favor of this bill. I believe Oregonians and those traveling to visit our state will recognize the importance of protecting its natural beauty.