

In support of HB 4134-1

To Chair Nathanson, Vice Chairs Reschke and Walters, and members of the committee,
Leo Cohen, Sunnyside Environmental School,
2-6-2026,

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the committee:

As a lifelong Oregon resident and 8th grader at a Portland K-8 writing to express my support for HB 4134-1, which provides essential funding for Oregon wildlife conservation efforts, I can't imagine life without abundant and varied wild places. I love hiking the Wildwood trail with my dad, going on school trips to learn about ecology, and spending quality time in local parks.

For the last two spring breaks, I've gone to the beautiful Smith Rock state park to hike and rock climb. Both times, I've had a blast climbing up idyllic walls and hauling myself up steep trails. The place is full of healthy thriving wildlife and a super excited community of people that love the place as much, if not more, than I do. But, these places are under attack. Habitat fragmentation, deforestation, overfishing, poaching, overly large wildfires, invasive species, and more are all threats to the places we Oregonians love. This bill would provide almost \$40M to research, mitigate and manage them effectively at a marginal cost to the consumer (only \$2.50 on a \$200 room).

Me and 71% of Oregonians believe that protecting Oregon biodiversity should be a priority. HB 4134-1 is your way to respect our wishes.

Sincerely, Leo Cohen
503-528-6598

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Sunnyside Environmental School