

Submitter: Elouise Mattox  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Conservation of the Oregon Desert is extremely important to life in and economy of the entire state. As the state comes to rely more and more on tourism visits to the desert will become more frequent and important for quality of life. Ranchers are finding cooperation with the desert a benefit to their operation because healthy flora and fauna make a healthy ecosystem. An increase in the lodging tax will go a long way to support long planned conservation programs that will make the desert visit experience more interesting and and enjoyable than it would be if we let the area deteriorate .

I am too old to be able to walk the many miles through the desert that I did in past years, but it is still a place of personal rejuvenation and reflection. I want this same experience to be available to coming generations including my own family. I see HB 4134 a small price to pay for potentially huge benefit for Oregonians and visitors to our wonderful state