

Submitter: Sibyl Ferguson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

#### SUPPORT HB 4134

This is my testimony to influence my legislators to vote "YES" on the very important House Bill 4134 which will increase the hotel tax to 1.25%. My three reasons are: Firstly, our economy benefits from billions of revenue dollars paid by outdoor recreation. This funding source will increase better outdoor resources, thus improving our economy and providing more jobs.

Secondly, funding from HB 4134 will significantly increase wildlife protection which is in a crisis from habitat destruction and climate warming. This stable fund will kickstart the State Wildlife Action Plan (S.W.A.P.) to provide recovery for 300 species of imperiled animals and 11 critical habitats.

Thirdly, 65% of this tourism tax will be paid by out-of-state visitors thus not impacting Oregon residents paying this tax. Plus, HB 4134 will provide steady funding to make the S.W.A.P. certain.

With appreciation for supporting our Great State of Oregon's reputation as a leader in nature conservation and care for our citizens,

Sibyl Ferguson

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