

Submitter: Lora Meisner
On Behalf Of: Coalition Advocating for Animals
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

As an Oregon resident and animal advocate, I urge you to vote YES on HB 4134 (1.25% for Wildlife).

I get the Oregon Tourism newsletters and Oregon's natural beauty is always featured and plays a substantial role in attracting tourists, even Oregonians from other areas of our state. Therefore, Oregon's wildlife and natural landscapes are central to our identity, economy, and quality of life. Visitors come here because of our forests, wildlife, rivers, coastlines, and open spaces. This bill provides stable, long-term funding for wildlife conservation, habitat restoration, anti-poaching enforcement, and practical coexistence solutions. Most of the modest 1.25% lodging tax increase is paid by out-of-state visitors, and Oregon would remain among the lowest lodging tax states in the country. Even when my husband and I travel around Oregon, including an occasional weekend in Portland--believe me that additional \$1.87 on a \$150 hotel room, would not discourage 99.999999% of people from traveling or stay in a hotel. I think the objections from the tourist bureau's is greatly exaggerated. PLEASE Support HB 4134. Thank you.