

Submitter: Arianne Jacques  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Greetings, Chair Broadman and members of the Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue!

My name is Arianne and I live in Portland, Oregon. I am submitting this testimony today in strong support of HB 4134 to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and help recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats.

I moved to Oregon from the Southeastern US because of the lush forests, abundant wildlife, and stunning scenic vistas I encountered on a visit here. If I hadn't been able to move here, I would have at least visited Oregon once year to experience the magic of the wild spaces throughout this state.

We cannot have a thriving tourism economy without healthy and abundant fish, wildlife, and the habitats that support them. This legislation would ensure we have both. At a time when the federal government is slashing funds and dismantling policies that protect our vulnerable fish and wildlife and their habitats, Oregon has a chance to set an example and protect our natural heritage. Doing so would make Oregon a national leader.

Securing long-term dedicated funding for wildlife and habitats protection is strongly supported by a majority of my fellow Oregonians. The funding would not only help wildlife and habitats, but also support local communities and businesses that rely on tourism dollars. Oregon's robust outdoor tourism economy supports nearly 200,000 jobs and brings in \$16 billion in consumer spending. Investing in these resources now will continue to generate more economic opportunities for Oregon's communities in the future.

Please support "1.25% for Wildlife" by passing HB 4134 today.

I appreciate your time in considering this matter.