

Submitter: Gabrielle Orsi

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Greetings from Bend, I'm Dr. Gabrielle Orsi and I am writing in strong support of HB 4134 with the -1 amendment to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% in order to help restore Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats. Oregon's natural wonders are one reason that I am proud to be an Oregon resident and significantly enhance the quality of life Oregonians enjoy. I personally recreate often outdoors and volunteer with the US Forest Service since I deeply value our natural environment. Our natural heritage here in Oregon is worth preserving, not only for its own sake, but also for economic reasons- Oregon's landscapes and wildlife attract tourists and healthy ecosystems support ranching, farming, fishing, and other uses. Investing in conservation now supports local communities and long-term economic resilience. I believe Oregon has an opportunity—and a responsibility—make this investment.