

Submitter: Mallory Pratt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

As a traveler in Oregon myself, I would be happy to pay a bit extra for my lodging if I knew it was going to support the wildlife and its habitat that I have traveled to enjoy. That said, HB 4134 strengthens our tourism and outdoor economy, without raising costs for residents.

Because HB 4134 is funded by an increase in the transient lodging tax, a majority of the funding will not come from Oregon residents. Outdoor recreation is a \$16 billion industry in Oregon. We can keep that industry growing and thriving by investing in the wildlife and natural spaces that attract visitors, all while still keeping Oregon's statewide lodging tax one of the lowest in the nation.

It also helps diversify the funding source for the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, which sorely needs more support to protect and manage our irreplaceable wildlife and the habitat they need.

Vote yes. It's an easy way to support the natural resource that is the bedrock of tourism especially in rural parts of our state.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mallory Pratt

Portland