

Submitter: Danielle Vournas

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I am overwhelmingly in support of this bill. Oregon's wild places and diverse animal species are part of what draw me to live here and travel through it. I think investing in protecting our vulnerable species is so important, for them, for our tourism industry, for the legacy we leave future Oregonians and Americans. Oregon's Department of Fish and Wildlife lacks stable funding and doesn't prioritize non-game species enough. Keeping nature healthy keeps its residents healthy and it is so important to show we are willing to take a stand for these values. This bill is supported by a diverse and bipartisan coalition, and this bill presents an historic opportunity to take a stand for wildlife when the odds from so many other venues are stacked against it. This bill doesn't raise cost for residents and it is the wild places and animals that attract tourism. We need to take a stand for wildlife and see some good news for a change.