

Submitter: Rebecca Hollenbeck

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

This legislation protects wildlife and human health.

The health of people and our environment is inextricably linked. Keeping nature healthy keeps people healthy. Projects funded by this legislation will help protect and clean drinking water, support wild pollinators that are essential to our food and natural systems, and maintain species like bats that help control insect populations. These investments aren't just an investment in our environment; they're an investment in community health which will benefit all of us.

Secondly, Oregon's Department of Fish and Wildlife lacks stable funding, especially for non-game species.

HB4134 changes that, addressing an issue that is plaguing state wildlife agencies across the country. This bill, supported by a diverse and bipartisan coalition, presents a historic policy opportunity to enable the ODFW to do its critical work.