

Submitter: Elizabeth Saufley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I am writing to urge you to follow suit of the House of Representatives and vote "yes" on HB 4134. At a time when Oregon is facing budget shortfalls in the short-term and in the next several years, this bill will provide needed income to the state to continue our work in preserving the wildlife habitats Oregonians hold dear. Additionally, our fish, wildlife and natural environment attract tourists, who bring income into the state.

As you know, the passage of this bill will support:

1. Oregon Department Fish & Wildlife Fund: Support safe passage for wildlife while their habitat is fragmented by development;
2. Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund: engage communities, including minority groups, by providing access to the outdoors, learn the importance of what Oregon has to offer, and take part in stewardship;
3. Provide resources that help reduce conflict and improve co-existence with wolves;
4. Support wildlife rehabilitation activities; and
5. Invest in wildfire risk reduction efforts in the community and develop a workforce that focuses on natural resources through the Civilian Conservation Corps.

There is so much more this bill provides for our communities and future generations. At a time when the Federal government is cutting funding and ending policies that protect our fish and wildlife and our natural environment, it is more imperative than ever to invest the funds we have in protecting what the community has worked hard to preserve in our state.