

Submitter: Peter Kokopeli

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I am writing in support of HB 4134 with the -1 amendment to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and help recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats.

When our family goes on vacation we camp, hike, bike, boat or just walk along the beach right here in Oregon. Our State's natural areas—including the high desert and sagebrush steppe—are central to what makes Oregon special and to why people choose to live, visit, and recreate here.

Oregon's outdoor recreation and tourism economy depends on healthy lands and waters. The outdoor economy contributes 2.6% of Oregon's GDP, supports 192,000 jobs, and generates \$16 billion in consumer spending.

Oregon has an opportunity—and a responsibility—to step up and invest in its natural legacy at a time when federal support is declining.