

Submitter: Margaret Quentin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

My name is Margaret Quentin. I live in Portland. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 4134 to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and help recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife and habitats.

Our state's identity is closely tied to its rich natural heritage, including native fish, wildlife and the habitats that support them. I am proud of our natural heritage and want to see it thrive for future generations.

The majority of Oregonians strongly support securing long-term dedicated funding to recover our most vulnerable fish, wildlife and habitats. Please support this landmark bill. Oregon's robust outdoor tourism economy - 2.6% of the state's GDP - supports 192,000 jobs and brings in \$16 billion in consumer spending.

We cannot have a thriving tourism economy without healthy and abundant fish, wildlife, and the habitats that support them. At a time when the federal government is slashing funds and dismantling policies that protect our vulnerable fish and wildlife and their habitats, Oregon has a chance to set an example and protect our natural heritage. Doing so would make Oregon a national leader.

I urge you to pass HB 4134 this legislative session!

Thank you very much, Margaret