

I am writing in total support of HB 4134, the 1.25% for Wildlife bill. There are a multitude of good reasons to pass this bill, as indicated by the plethora of testimony in support. So I will be brief and mention two that I find most compelling.

1. HB 4134 would not change Oregon's national lodging tax rankings as the 3rd lowest in the country. In fact, with a rise of 1.25%, the ranking will STILL be 3rd lowest. And add to that the fact that Oregon is one of only a few states that has no sales tax. So visitors get a low lodging tax AND no sales tax – kind of a no-brainer if you're concerned about travel costs!
2. ODFW's budget lacks any dedicated funding for our State Wildlife Action Plan. This is no way to run a tourist industry when wildlife and wildlife habitat are major draws for tourists (both within and outside the state!).

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony for this bill. I strongly urge this Committee to pass it.

Patricia Kramer, Portland