

Submitter: Max Schneider

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Hello, Oregon Legislators!

I am writing in support of HB 4134 regarding additional funding for wildlife in Oregon via the 1/25% for Wildlife initiative.

Oregon is a U.S. state well-known for its breathtaking natural beauty and lush natural habitats. This is not news to anyone that is remotely familiar with the jewel we call home. In fact, the entire United States still has something of an international reputation for being able to conserve our natural spaces in all their vast splendor - people come here from around the world to see our incredible national parks, lethally gorgeous deserts, ancient old-growth forests, and so much more. It's difficult to properly articulate just how valuable our natural spaces are, but their ecological productivity, recreational use and potential, cultural significance, and environmental significance cannot be overstated. Humans as individuals, and humanity as a collective, have an incomprehensibly deep connection to our natural spaces and local wildlife as fellow species on Earth whether or not we are able to consciously recognize, measure, quantify, or describe that connection.

An investment in the wildlife and the carefully balanced resiliency of Oregon's greatest resource (in one resident's humble opinion) is a prudent and wise use of public funds at any time, and an especially timely direction of funds given the danger many of our natural spaces are currently in. Natural resource exploitation looms large in our civilizational systems and ways of life, and we must not lose sight of the profoundly positive impact conservation efforts have in granting current and future generations access to these invaluable resources and spaces.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Max Schneider, Oregon Resident