

Submitter: Tammy Bittler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I am writing to you today as a resident of the beautiful Oregon Coast to urge you to pass HB4134 (1.25% for Wild Life).

Although living on the coast I am aware of the advantages this bill would bring to help support the much needed work toward protecting coastal species such as kelp forests, whales, or eel grass, or help with the recovery of salmon; I also know that the tourist industry on the Coast would withstand the few extra dollars a night, if the beauty and diversity that is unique to this area that draws people is supported and continues.

I am an Oregonian first, and a coastal resident second, however. This bill will benefit all of Oregon. It benefits people when we take actions to improve habitat for animals, we improve our own habitat as well. We also economize by pooling our resources by insuring that our time and money helping the over 300 vulnerable species flourish, and not become Endangered, falling into grey areas we then spend time and dwindling resources in other departments struggling with difficult decisions. This is an area that has Bi-partisan support, and truly makes sense.

Also, in relying on a low, outside tax that doesn't scare tourists away from a state that offers so much in outdoor recreation, beauty, arts and entertainment, we don't overburden anyone.

I ask again, please pass HB4134. It is a Win/ Win for pollinators, clean water, so many vulnerable species, economically dealing with species near Endangerment marking, and it isn't asking something I wouldn't pay myself, as a tourist visiting somewhere I loved and wanted to keep it worth returning to.

Thank You for your time