

Submitter: Michael Berry  
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-

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

I encourage you to kill 2026 HB 4134 in Committee.

I see this as just one more contributor toward the figurative death of Oregon by a "thousand cuts".

I see that some supporters are framing this as merely "(increasing) the state lodging tax by 1.25%". I'm calling that out as disingenuous. As introduced, the tax would be increased from 1.5% to 2.75%. That's an increase of more than 83% from the current baseline. 83 percent increase!!

As I understand the current arrangement, funds collected as a result of this tax go in to a fund that supports economic redevelopment.

HB 4134 includes within it a scheme to divert at least a portion of those funds to an entirely different purpose: fish and wildlife recovery. Correct?

While I am not against helping fish and wildlife that are struggling to survive, I oppose hijacking this tax category, and using the funds for other purposes. Enough with the shell games and tax increases.

If there are not humans supporting this so that THEY will be the eventual beneficiaries of these funds, then I'm a monkey's uncle.

Again, I encourage you to kill this bill in Committee. If not there, then please vote against it, if and when it hits on the floor.

Thank you.

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Senate District 1

House District 2