

Submitter: Robert Haberman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

In Oregon, there are 294 at-risk species that are considered 'species of greatest conservation need'. Without proactive action, Oregon stands to lose these critical species. Oregon created a blueprint for recovering our most vulnerable and imperiled species known as the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Nearshore Strategy. The goals of these state wildlife action plans are to maintain healthy fish and wildlife populations by maintaining and restoring functioning habitats, preventing declines of at-risk species, and reversing declines in these resources where possible. However, the Conservation Strategy has lacked the necessary resources and funds to fully implement the recommended conservation actions. HB 2977, "1% for Wildlife", proposes increasing the state transient lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.5%, to combat the biodiversity crisis and by investing in the conservation and recovery of Oregon's most vulnerable wildlife and habitat. This would generate approximately \$30 million a year for proactive wildlife and habitat conservation. This is a cost-effective idea that would help recover our state's most vulnerable fish and wildlife. Please help Oregon recover our most at-risk species by supporting HB 2977 today! Thank you.