Submitter: Tela Naftalin

On Behalf Of: CascadesAcademy

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural

Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or HB2977

Topic:

Testimony for One Percent for Wildlife Conservation

I am a student at Cascades Academy in the Eco club and I really support this. As we stand at a critical juncture in our history, the importance of conserving our planet's biodiversity has never been clearer. I am here to advocate for the allocation of just one percent of our resources to protect and preserve wildlife.

Wildlife is the heartbeat of our ecosystems. From the smallest insects to the grandest mammals, each species plays a vital role in maintaining the balance of nature. Unfortunately, human activities have driven many species to the brink of extinction, and it's our responsibility to take action.

By dedicating one percent of our lodging taxes to wildlife conservation, we can make a significant impact. This investment would enable us to implement effective conservation strategies, protect natural habitats, and combat threats such as poaching and climate change.

Moreover, protecting wildlife is not just about preserving nature—it's about ensuring the health and well-being of future generations. Healthy ecosystems provide us with clean air, water, and fertile soil, all of which are essential for human survival. Investing in wildlife conservation also has economic benefits. Ecotourism, for example, generates substantial revenue for local communities and fosters a deeper connection between people and nature. By protecting wildlife, we can support sustainable development and create economic opportunities for many. In conclusion, dedicating one percent of our resources to wildlife conservation is a small but powerful step toward ensuring a sustainable and thriving future for both wildlife and humanity. Let us seize this opportunity to make a difference and leave a legacy of stewardship and respect for the natural world. Thank you.