

Submitter: Mahela Schiffer
On Behalf Of: Cascades Academy Eco club
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

I am writing to support House Bill 2977, which will increase the state hotel tax by 1% to help our wildlife.

Oregon is a beautiful place with amazing animals and landscapes. Many people visit our state to enjoy nature, and this helps our economy. However, our wildlife is facing many challenges like wildfires, drought, and invasive species.

House Bill 2977 will raise the state lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.5%, and the extra 1% will go to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. This money will help them protect and restore endangered species and their habitats.

The extra tax will mainly be paid by tourists, who make up 63% of the lodging tax revenue. By supporting this bill, we can protect our natural heritage for future generations and ensure that those who enjoy Oregon's beauty contribute to its preservation.

I urge you to support House Bill 2977. This legislation is essential for securing the future of Oregon's wildlife and habitats and reflects our commitment to conservation and sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mahela Schiffer