

Submitter: Tracy Mendell

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3856

Dear Oregon Representatives,

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed HB 3856, which seeks to introduce a new personal income tax to fund the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

As an Oregon resident, I'm deeply concerned about the broader implications of this bill and its potential impact on the financial well-being of hardworking individuals across the state.

While I understand the need for funding state wildlife efforts, I'm troubled by the fact that a significant portion of the funds generated by this new tax would go directly into the General Fund, not solely to support the intended wildlife programs. This raises concerns about the potential for misuse or misallocation of resources meant to benefit Oregon's wildlife and natural resources.

Additionally, I have reservations about the significant increases in fishing and hunting tag prices, which seem to contradict the bill's claim of providing a tax credit for those purchasing these permits. This could result in a net increase in costs for Oregonians, rather than a beneficial change.

Given that this bill impacts every Oregon resident with a job and adds another layer of taxation, I believe it's unfair to burden the public with additional financial strain, especially when many Oregonians are already facing high living costs and economic uncertainty.

A new tax is not the solution for funding wildlife programs, and I urge you to reconsider supporting this measure. I respectfully ask that you oppose HB 3856 and work towards more responsible solutions that do not place an additional tax burden on Oregon's residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Tracy Mendell