

Submitter: John Hamburg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

Populations of many Oregon native wildlife species have been in significant, rapid decline over the past half century. Viewing some of these animals attracts tourists to visit here, or at least contributes to their positive visitation experience. Whether it's birds on a beach or flying overhead, elk or foxes peering into a golf fairway, ocean creatures such as starfish or seals, Clark nutcracker birds or pine martens scampering across a ski trail, wildlife encounters frequently make an enriching memory for people who have chosen to vacation here. It's a part of why they come. A tourism tax goes hand in hand as a natural partner with wildlife conservation.