

Submitter:

Hilary Garrett

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2977

This bill would provide critical, long-overdue funding for protecting Oregon's native wildlife, restoring habitats, reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions, and supporting efforts to help people and wildlife coexist. Passing this bill is vital. The longer we wait to act, the more species we risk losing. As population growth and urban development continue to encroach on critical wildlife habitat, we need to ACT. Delays make recovery more expensive, more complicated, and more contentious. HB 2977 proposes a modest funding solution: raising the statewide lodging tax by just 1.25 percent. Oregon's lodging tax is currently one of the lowest in the country. That's just \$1.25 per \$100—what Republican co-sponsor Representative Mark Owens called "less than a cup of coffee." Please vote yes on HB 2977.