

Les Helgeson

April 14, 2017

TO: House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
RE: SB 372A

I cannot support SB 372A since it is impractical and would lead to increased violation of state wildlife laws.

I have lived in rural Oregon for many decades now and have too often witnessed or seen the after effects of roadside collisions with wildlife (fortunately not involving myself!). Virtually all so-called road kills result in either emaciated carcasses or the animals suffer a slow and agonizing death.

The result is meat that would not be palatable, much less pass any sense of health standards for human consumption. Consuming "road-kill" is unhealthy by any standard and would likely lead to increased disease transmittance.

The bill would further encourage illegal "collisions" with wildlife creating a defense for doing so:

"The deer ran out in front of me officer and I had to shoot it to prevent suffering".

OSP has a monumental task already and the bill would only make their jobs more difficult.

Please kill this bill. Road kill has no place in our diets and poses a significant public safety hazard.

Thank you.

Les Helgeson