Dear House Committee on HB4029,

With all of the amazing wild and scenic rivers we have in Oregon does it make you wonder why you're reviewing a foot bridge ban on the Middle Deschutes. Not the upper Rouge, Willamette, Chetco, or Grand Ronde none of these plus many more wild and scenic rivers do not have this ban? Could it be the fact that a retired USFS official that testified at the Oregon State Parks informational meeting in Bend and chaired the original committee who wrote this regulation had something to gain? Could it be that this guy owns a home on the Deschutes? Now this time around a wealthy Portland land owner is involved whose folks wrote the recent bill to ban the bridge and slipped it to Whisnant to jam it through. Do you find it interesting that this guy's lobbyist recently came under contract with Oregon Wild? Look at the diagram below showing a land owners septic leach system perhaps closer than the minimum set back from the river he may be pretending to protect.

Please review the diagram below of the area surrounding the proposed BPRD bridge. Houses and septic systems feet from the river. Off leash dog park, golf course and Bachelor View Estates in the rumored wild life migration path. River Vale development with huge earth movers and blasting in progress on land until recently a private landowners "Wildlife Preserve". He didn't seem to have any issues with selling the family "Preserve" for a few million dollars.

There are about 20,000 people in SW Bend City limits and another 6,000 in the Counties Deschutes River woods area within a short drive, walk or ride to the proposed bridge. Eventually the Bridge will likely be within Bend's UGB. Unfortunately, we middle class working folks can't take time to drive from Bend to Salem for your 8am meeting. However, we are taxpaying hard working Oregon citizens and we are asking you not to play dirty politics and block something that our families and future generations will enjoy immensely. Please let the decision be made in Bend and the environmental review process determined by the USFS whose land the bridge will occupy. Please tell our political leaders that you can't be bought out by wealthy land owners.

Sincerely,



Eric Anderson- upstairs@bendbroadband.com



Tim Phillips, money behind bill, septic system possibly less than 100' from river. Check county records and you'll notice monitoring system was turned off during last recorded inspection



Aileen Grosh Living Trust structure 25' from river

