

**From:** [Charlie Vial](#)  
**To:** [Exhibits HNR](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2834  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 6:32:43 AM

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I am writing to ask for your support on this bill. Like most people in Oregon, I value wildlife highly and want safer migration corridors for them. But I also want safer highways for humans as we go about our daily “migrations.” As a psychologist who specialized in treating those with serious medical conditions, I have seen the human effects of motor vehicle collisions with wildlife. The human toll is almost never recognized when we talk about these crashes. We focus instead on the monetary costs, maybe because they can be measured more easily.

Collisions with wildlife do cause many millions of dollars in damage, but they can also result in severe brain injuries, scarring, disability, and death. These costs are usually ignored in wildlife crash data. One of my most tragic patients was a woman who received a severe brain injury when an elk came through her windshield as she drove her family on a highway. She will never be the same.

We can prevent many of these incidents, making life in Oregon less expensive and safer for us, and safer for our wildlife. Please, let’s put resources into a task that will repay us over many years to come.

Respectfully,

Dr. Charles Vial  
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Bend, Oregon