

Dear Chair Wilde and members of the House Committee on General Government:

I support HB 3204, which would direct state agencies to work together to improve prevention, monitoring and response to zoonotic disease. COVID19, along with Ebola virus, avian influenza and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, were zoonotic in origin, which means they were spread from animals to humans. A major factor in this spread is the wildlife trade and trafficking. Oregon needs to get ahead of the next pandemic by taking steps to monitor and stop the import of non-native species. State agencies, such as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can be proactive in this protection by developing guidelines and working together to prevent the spread of further zoonotic in origin pandemics.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 3204.

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