

House Committee,

I have been a licensed Oregon fur taker since 1976, I also currently operate a full-time wildlife control business in Oregon.

I am asking for your opposition to HB 2844, the reasons for this opposition are multifaceted as briefly outlined below.

Just in our company alone we are called out too many tens of thousands of dollars in residential, agricultural, and forestland beaver damages annually. Crops and road infrastructure, along with lowland flooding are the primary types of damages.

These specific types of problems are how the beaver became designated as a predatory animal, and the specific reason for this designation was to allow these problems to be addressed immediately, without the delays caused by any unnecessary red tape, such as a case-by-case basis requiring departmental oversight, so to speak.

Our very experienced observations throughout our wildlife control operations, and in my personal life as a serious fisherman, do not indicate any negative trends in beaver populations overall. In fact, quite the opposite, beaver control business is way up, and our local waterways are actually overpopulated with beavers. We routinely enjoy observing the multiple beavers seen on almost every fishing trip, and type of sign beavers leave on the landscape is absolutely unmistakable.

Again, asking for your opposition to HB2844, this is an unnecessary change, and not based on accurate science in my opinion.

Sincerely,

Wayne Loyd