

Dear Legislators, As a NY-born, NJ-bred, now 33-year resident of Oregon, I write to ally myself with the state animal, the lively beaver! Please support HB2844 to encourage the presence of beaver on a wider swath of the Oregon landscape. Amid climate change, beaver are a vital component for Oregon's ecological health, and can provide Oregonians with increased wildfire resilience, water security, improved water quality and habitat for the state fish, the salmon! And while folks may complain that this encroaches on their ranching and/or farming habits, the bill does not remove the unpleasant option of lethal removal for Oregon landowners. The state animal is not a cow, so let's keep it that way.

An honorary, proud Oregonian, Maureen Milton, Portland, Oregon