

I am writing in avid support of HB 2844. Beaver are a critical, keystone species in the state of Oregon. Given the encroachment of humans on beaver habitat and other negative environmental pressures (e.g., air and water pollution, climate change, etc.), we need to make considerable efforts to preserve and recover our local beaver population. Our state and the environment is better off due to beavers' beneficial impacts on wildfire mitigation, water cleanliness and security, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity.

Please consider the "big picture" and do the right thing. Beaver are not just iconic creatures of the state of Oregon, they are a keystone species.

Thank you,
Owen Murphy
Bend, OR