



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
ELK FOUNDATION**

Testimony Before Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

February 2, 2021

Subject: HB 2845 – Directs Legislative Policy and Research Office to study issues related to funding construction of wildlife corridor road crossings to Legislative Committees

Chair Witt and members of the Committee

My name is Bill Richardson, and I live southwest of Philomath, Oregon. I am the Oregon and Washington Senior Lands Program Manager for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and I am speaking today on the Foundations behalf.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is a national non-profit conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. The Elk Foundation also works to open, secure, and improve public access for hunting, fishing, and other recreation.

I am here today to state the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation supports HB 2845.

The need for wildlife corridor road crossings is widely recognized. Such crossings will provide both for safety of the motoring public and protect the wildlife.

There must be an equitable and durable funding mechanism identified and this bill will lead to that.

I want to thank the committee and legislators for their good work on HB 2834 and for their commitment to continue this work through HB 2845. HB 2845 will provide additional details and information that will be key to finding solutions to ensure that Oregon's highways do not remain a barrier to the wildlife that Oregonians value.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for HB 2845.

Sincerely,

Bill Richardson  
Oregon & Washington Sr. Lands Program Manager  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation