

Submitter: Wendy Wagner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

I live in Milwaukie, where beavers often pass through our local waterways. While they can indeed eat trees -- one even nabbed a street tree in my neighborhood -- the improvements they make in our natural parks are worth millions we would have spent to improve those sites. As someone who lives next to a protected wetlands (Minthorn Springs), I've seen the water quality and diversity of life improve dramatically when beavers are visiting, and decline when they leave. Everyone in my neighborhood loves the number of birds we see in our neighborhood, and treasures the sounds of the frogs in spring. The proximity to nature is one of the factors that has made our neighborhood a very desirable place to live, with steadily rising home values.

Beavers do great work and deserve more protection. Now's a great time to work harder to live with them!