

Dear House Committee Members,

As an Oregon trapper and Veteran, I oppose HB3390 for the following reasons:

- Fur is a renewable resource with less negative environmental impact than cotton or synthetics, and most is utilized from predators and nuisance wildlife. Additionally, the primary goal of trappers is to utilize as much of each trapped animal as possible, HB3390 would force wasteful trapping practices.
- This bill is unconstitutional under Artl.S8.C3.7.1: “states may not discriminate against interstate commerce and may not take actions that burden interstate commerce [Artl.S8.C3.7.1 prevents] the State from adopting protectionist measures and thus preserves a national market for good and services.” This bill would do both.
- This bill effectively aims to end trapping in the state of Oregon. Trappers and predator management personnel under the trapping/furbearing licenses of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife collect fur to be used, sold, and traded. Without legal means to use the fur from harvested wildlife, most would stop trapping due to the unethical waste forced by this bill.
- This bill would result in an increase of predators and nuisance wildlife affecting farms, urban areas, and city limits. Amplified negative impact on ground nesting birds, deer, livestock, tree damage, and flooding are all certain consequences if this bill were to pass. An increase in diseases, including rabies, has also been proven with population spikes in nuisance and predatory wildlife coming into more human contact. Supporters of this bill have not thoroughly considered the consequences of ending trapping in Oregon.
- There would be a negative financial impact to Oregon state revenue conservatively estimated in the hundreds of thousands. Fur starts with the trapper, who requires a license and financial investment in supplies, fuel, fur care ect. Fur is then taken to auction to be sold to a supplier, working its way up the chain with the final product often selling for thousands. The loss of revenue to Oregon through ODFW issued trapping licenses would also set in motion financial impact to the state in trappers loss of revenue, some whose sole subsistence comes from trapping. These individuals and their families would likely be dependent on state welfare for at least a time, while the state had to spend more tax dollars to control and repair damage from nuisance and predatory wildlife that, ironically, Oregon trappers were previously paying the state (through licenses) to avoid.
- Enforcement of this law would be difficult, and would encourage illegal trapping with the resulting prodcuts being sold out of state.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my opposition to HB3390, as well as the opposition to this bill by all other outdoorsmen, hunters, fishers, and trappers in the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Lance Portal