



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

## Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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House Committee on Judiciary  
RE: HB 3390

Chair Kropf, Vice-chairs Andersen and Wallan, Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is Oregon's largest state-centric hunter conservation organization, representing 10,000 sportsmen and women throughout 26 chapters in the state. Our mission statement is 'to protect Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage' and we have a strong history of advocating for science-based wildlife management.

OHA is strongly opposed to HB 3390, particularly the value statements included in Section (1) which use ill-defined words such as cruel and humane with no context or basis. The morality-based language seeks to vilify actions such as trapping or the wearing of fur. This is, in the truest sense, elitist rhetoric intent on marginalizing communities who place value on heritage skills and the usage of natural fibers and products to the full extent practicable.

In the absence of natural fibers and products, the proponents of this bill would seek to increase use of synthetic fibers with no acknowledgment of the environment impacts associated not just with the manufacturing of these products but also the post-consumption landfill accumulation.

Fur is an excellent natural fiber for many uses, one of which is tying flies for fishing. The elk hair caddis fly is one of the most prolific, and effective, flies used on Oregon waters. Criminalizing the sale or trade of fur products would negatively impact an entire sector of outdoor recreation with a direct impact on tourism and the economic benefit it brings to rural communities.

The use of fur and fur products reaches far further into Oregon lifestyles than the proponent of this bill would have you believe. Make no mistake, HB 3390 is not about retail sales, it is not about fashion, and it is most definitely not about "enhancing the reputation" of Oregon. The proponents of HB 3390, with their elitist rhetoric, seek to purport their narrow views as morally superior while ignoring the environmental impacts those views would impart. They wield words like 'humane' or 'cruel' as badges to be worn only by themselves or dispensed as labels against others who do not agree.

HB 3390 is, at its core, about the ideological divide between urban and rural communities. It is another example of proponents insulating themselves from the realities of rural Oregon while simultaneously casting judgement, and regulation, upon those same communities. And it is exactly why this committee should stand opposed to HB 3390.

Thank you,  
Amy Patrick  
Policy Director