

Submitter: James Adkins

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB4148

Good afternoon Chair Helm and members of the Committee,

I am writing in general support of HB 4148. Invasive species and wildlife disease have had catastrophic effects on our wildlife populations and our environment. I thank the committee members for making the programs and the issues that these programs address a priority. The emphasis on safe wildlife crossing is also fantastic and I whole heartedly support it.

I also would like to express my concern about the language around the wildlife co-existence program. I think this concept is a good idea and I am very supportive of work that diminishes human/wildlife conflicts. In a completely un scientific assessment, I think that most conflicts can be address by the simple concept of "don't feed the wildlife".

However, I would like there to be some clarification that the work of this program will not result in any policy changes that diminish hunting, fishing, or trapping opportunities that otherwise would not have been addressed aside from scientific based recommendations that ODFW's commission would have already taken up outside of the work of this program.

Thank you so much for considering this request, and for the work that this committee has done to develop this legislation.

James Adkins