

Submitter: Mary Becker

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2978

Co-Chair Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support HB 2978.

I encourage you to support this important measure. Wildlife cannot speak for themselves and as we encroach more and more into their habitat, their life span decreases quickly and devastatingly so by our presence. They cannot anticipate the danger of the speed or amount of cars and how deadly a collision would be. And, thus, they die when they misjudge.

Wildlife crossings are highly effective and Oregon needs more crossing structures. HB 2978 and an option for permanent state-level funding to support wildlife crossing initiatives will:

Improve the safety of Oregon's roadways

Remove barriers to wildlife

Make Oregon more competitive in capturing federal funding

Please build on the important progress at the state legislature over the past five years by passing HB 2978.

Sincerely,

Mary Becker

A Bend resident of 35 years where I have witnessed first hand the slaughter of beautiful and innocent wildlife due to our ever increasing need to gobble up their home areas.