

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

I strongly support HB 2978.

Here in Central Oregon, the greatest danger for deer is a vehicle. And a very common danger for we humans is to hit a deer with our car. I have not yet hit one, but I have barely missed them many times. Sadly, we very often see their dead bodies roadside or, worse yet, still in the roadway offering a new traffic obstacle. And I know quite a few people who have sustained personal as well as property injury as a result of colliding with a deer.

I have seen the crossings in other states and I think this is a terrific idea. Many other animal species will use them too. And drivers will be a lot safer.

Wildlife crossings have been shown to be highly effective and Oregon has very few of them. We need to correct this!

So we need to pass HB 2978 and, in addition, to get some permanent state-level funding to support wildlife crossing initiatives.

Please do pass HB 2978.

Sincerely,
Eva Eagle