

Submitter: Jane Happy

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2978

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

Please build on the important progress at the state legislature in recent years by passing HB 2978.

I live in the Willamette Valley and frequently travel in all directions throughout Oregon. I would like our state to expand its investment in and commitment to the safety of both wildlife and humans along our highways. So many tragedies could be avoided with a little thoughtful planning and infrastructure to support wildlife traveling safely along their way, and out of our way, while we travel Oregon's roads and highways.

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

- * Improve the safety of Oregon's roadways
- * Make Oregon more competitive in capturing federal funding
- * Remove barriers that prevent animals from finding food, shelter, and mates

I strongly support HB 2978 and I hope you will seize this opportunity to prioritize public safety and restore wildlife habitat connectivity.

Sincerely,
Jane Happy