

Submitter: Spencer Bailey  
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.

As an avid outdoorsy person, I love to hike, ride my bicycle, motorcycle, offroad, etc. Interactions with wildlife are frequent enough that caution is warranted at all times when on and off road or on or off trail (in non-trailed areas). Eliminating human-wildlife interactions is impossible of course, and no one wants that anyway. But minimizing violent interactions, be it on roads at high speed or under-tire or foot at lower speeds remains imperative, and any assistance we can provide our wildlife friends is assistance we SHOULD provide.

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,  
Spencer W Bailey