

Submitter: Michael Vanderlaan

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've had many close calls with wildlife crossing roads over the years.

The thought of injuring or killing an animal, because we built a road through its natural habitat, disturbs me quite a bit. I've seen effective use of fences and over crossings in other locations and feel it's the best way to protect animals and humans.??

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,?Michael Vanderlaan