



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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February 3, 2025

RE: HB 2980

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is Oregon's largest state-centric hunter conservation organization, representing over 12,000 sportsmen and women throughout 26 chapters in the state. Our mission is 'to protect Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage' and we strongly support science-based wildlife and habitat management.

OHA supports HB 2980 and the investments in managing urban-wildlife conflicts.

As Oregon's urban centers continue to grow, so do areas of conflict between wildlife and humans. Reducing these conflicts benefits Oregonians, our wildlife, and our Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) staff. Adding personnel capacity specific to the reduction of human-wildlife conflict will allow existing ODFW staff, such as District Biologists, to return their focus to their primary job duties.

Providing public education regarding living with wildlife and the importance of wildlife staying wild is a necessary component in the overall reduction of human-wildlife conflict, as is support for wildlife rehabilitation providers.

OHA supports HB 2980's efforts to increase public education, provide support for wildlife rehabilitation providers, and additional staff support for ODFW.

Thank you for your time,  
Amy Patrick  
Policy Director