

Submitter: Jane Bicquette

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3143

Dear Honorable Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water:

Thank you for your service to Oregon. We are, after all, the "Beaver State" and this is so for good reason.

But first, on a personal point of view, I have lately learned much about beavers. These animals are extremely social and will live with their offspring for years after birth, and are truly the model of loving, bonded families. They create such strong bonds that if one member of their family is injured, they move to help and heal their family member. And sadly if even one member dies, the bonded animals suffer greatly and can even stop eating and die. Their bonds are solid and emotional. Oregon should be HONORED to support and sustain beaver families. The thought of killing or trapping these magnificent sentient beings and causing unimaginable harm to their families is heartbreaking.

As our State Animal, Beavers should be better understood and protected. Beavers are resourceful animals that help create healthy riparian areas, sustain and increase wetlands and biological diversity. We need to employ humane, non-lethal conflict resolutions, and educate landowners so that beavers can thrive. When beavers thrive, they create an environment supporting many rare plants and animals, restore riparian corridors, and build resilient ecological systems that help mitigate the effects of climate change.

Please LEAD Oregon into a future that sustains our natural wonders and wildlife, especially our precious, amazing beavers.

Thank you.
Jane Bicquette