



# HUMANE VOTERS | OREGON

Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on House Bill 2980  
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

February 3, 2025

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

Humane Voters Oregon is a nonprofit organization that works in Oregon's political process and elections to promote humane treatment of animals. We are not affiliated with any other state or national organization.

Humane Voters Oregon supports House Bill 2980, which would create a "wildlife stewardship" program in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and help fund wildlife rehabilitation centers.

As Oregon becomes more populated, interactions between people and wildlife become more common. In many cases, wildlife is deemed to pose a risk to human safety, pets, farm animals or property. Too often, the response is to kill the wildlife, often with methods that seem inhumane to many Oregonians. A wildlife stewardship program would help shift the response to nonlethal approaches, which would result in more humane treatment of wildlife while still protecting people, property, pets and farm animals. The proposed wildlife stewardship program also would teach people how to "keep wildlife wild," which would help minimize human-wildlife conflict in the first place.

HB 2980 also would help fund wildlife rehabilitation centers, which provide humane and satisfying solutions when people encounter injured wildlife.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Brian Posewitz  
Director