

Submitter: Christine Haynie  
On Behalf Of: Self  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2978

To Chair, Pam Marsh and Members: Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

I write in strong support of HS 2978. In these times of increasing threats to the very existence of so many wild species living and migrating in areas of development, highway infrastructure, climate change chaos, and other human made barriers. We must, as a state that believes wildlife safety is a priority, develop solutions that will help protect these wild animals. They are vital in maintaining healthy ecosystems. And we cannot ignore the moral directive that insists we respect these animals and their right to live. Research by scientists and wildlife experts shows that one very effective solution is to build corridors that allow these animals to move safely within their habitats. Research also clearly demonstrates that corridors decrease collisions between animals and vehicles. A yes vote is a win win decision. Some on your committee and other elected legislators may complain such corridors are too expensive. The cost/benefit analyses show that this should not even be an issue given what at stake for both humans and animals. But the biggest reason everyone should be in favor of this bill is ethics. There is no argument to justify the failure to do all within human power to ensure that our diminishing wildlife has a fighting chance to survive and thrive in the face of so many challenges to their existence. Respectively Submitted, Christine Haynie, Medford, Oregon.