

Submitter: Christine Haynie
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3143

My name is Christine Haynie and I live in Rural Southern Oregon. I strongly support HB3143. As I have learned more what a difference this mysterious and misunderstood animal has made over eons of time in shaping the landscapes of the world and building successful ecosystems, the more urgent it has become for me to fight for their protections and rights that will not only ensure their survival but expand their numbers. I believe that all living things have the right to lead their lives in healthy habitats. Beavers come with the added value that they can shape their environments not only for their own sake but for the ability of many other species to thrive, to help mitigate the impacts of climate change and to reduce the size and severity of wildfires. A new book published in December 2022 written by Leila Philip will explain in detail why beavers do and have done all these things. This book is "Beaverland: how this one weird rodent made America." We must do everything within our powers to protect this incredible engineering animal. HB3143 provides a way forward to accomplish this.

Here are some reviews:

"Before the Anthropocene we had the Casterocene: a North American environment profoundly shaped by millions of beavers. In BEAVERLAND, Leila Philip takes us on a fascinating tour of the beaver's effect on human history, and how, after its near extinction, we need to bring this rodent back for the sake of our ecosystems."?Frans de Waal, author of Different: Gender Through the Eyes of a Primatologist (Norton, 2022

Philip "dives into many avenues of research, including the enslavement of Native Americans, the cunning greed of John Jacob Astor, the obsession of Dorothy Richards who lived with 14 beavers in her Adirondack house, and the lifeways of indigenous peoples. Every inch of the way we know we are in good hands. BEAVERLAND is poignant, impeccably researched, and as artfully put together as any of their 'weird rodent's' houses, with an eye toward the beaver's role in the anthropogenic disaster of our changing climate and damaged ecosystems."?Gretel Ehrlich, author of Unsolaced and The Solace of Open Spaces"

"Most interesting is what Philip learned about beavers' contribution to environmental restoration... A spirited, informative historical and environmental investigation." ?Kirkus Review

I hope you all will read it and let its truth guide you in the way you view and strive to protect these amazing animals