

Submitter: Rosemary Richter Embry

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2980

I support the Wildlife Stewardship Program. Climate change and habitat loss, combined with human population growth and expansion, forces people and wildlife into closer proximity and increases the risk of human-wildlife conflict. These conflicts are costly and decrease tolerance for wildlife which erodes support for wildlife conservation generally, and leads to policies focused on short-term lethal options instead of the fundamental changes needed to address human-wildlife conflict. This is true in urban, suburban, and rural landscapes. The Wildlife Stewardship Program is a diverse task force supported by ODFW and will reduce human-wildlife conflicts, promote wildlife coexistence and stewardship, and engage new and diverse audiences in wildlife conservation.