

Submitter: David Collins

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

In the fall of 2021, my family relocated to Oregon's Willamette valley for an employment opportunity. Since then, every single photo from one of our explorations into the mountains, desert, or coastal areas of the state produces comments of, "I see why you moved there. It's so beautiful." This has enticed friends and family to come visit and experience, if only for a few days, the wonders of Oregon. These visits always include lodging as we essentially "show off" our new home state. Unfortunately though, things like habitat loss and degradation, climate change, invasive species, and other natural and human-made impacts are taking a toll on Oregon's birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, and bees. This is a significance part of what makes Oregon so beautiful and inspires people (local residents, or out of state visitors) to travel here and spend their hard earned money. As we humans continue to have devastating effects on the environment we live in, it is our responsibility to counter those effects through initiatives like the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Nearshore Strategy. For too long, the Conservation Strategy has lacked the necessary resources and funds to fully implement the recommended conservation actions. Please help Oregon recover our most at-risk species by supporting HB 2977 today!