Submitter: Richard Pross

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Co-Chair Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Davis, and Members of the Committee:

I reside in Lake Oswego, Oregon and I am asking the Committee to support HB 3362.

Each year in Oregon, there are over 7,000 wildlife-vehicle collisions with large animals. On average, four people die and over 500 people are seriously injured. The cost of these collisions on Oregon roadways is likely more than \$100 million each year. I have witnessed several of these in incidents first-hand and it is a tragedy for both the people and the animals involved.

Wildlife crossing structures are the solution. They are a proven, popular, and cost-effective technique to improve public safety and restore habitat connectivity. Oregon needs a permanent source of funding to implement state programs and projects to improve motorist and wildlife safety.

Permanent funding would:

- Improve the safety of Oregon's roadways
- Remove barriers to wildlife
- Make Oregon more competitive in capturing federal funding

Please protect both our wildlife and our communities by supporting HB 3362.

Thank you, sincerely, for your time and consideration, Richard Pross