

Submitter: Zechariah Heck

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 am an Oregon resident asking you 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.

Fortunately, there is a solution. Wildlife crossing structures 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!

Regards,
Zechariah Heck