

Submitter: Kay Firor
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 a longtime Oregon resident asking you to support HB 3362.

A young woman who grew up in our neighborhood was recently in a vehicle accident which totaled her car and killed a beautiful elk. Fortunately for all who know her, our neighbor's daughter was not seriously injured. But many people are not so lucky. 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!

Kay Firor,
Cove, OR