

Submitter: Emerson Chase

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1131

I am writing to express my support on SB 1131. I believe the Chintimini Wildlife Center is a vital animal rehabilitation and education center servicing multiple counties in the Willamette Valley. From my own personal background I grew up surrounded by wildlife habitat that hosts a wide variety of animals. I raised and took care of both domestic farm and wild animals when sick or injured. Over time, I've come to realize the significant differences in infrastructure and care that's required when rehabilitating a wild animal compared to a domestic animal. Additionally, I've witnessed the post effects that environmental disturbances like wildfire can have on wildlife. After Oregon's 2020 wildlife season, massive numbers of displaced animals surged through surrounding wildlife habitat needing care as they passed through. For this reason, I believe it's crucial to support and have non-profits like Chintimini Wildlife Center exist, to service sick and injured wildlife, release and relocate healed animals, educate the public, and provide volunteer opportunities for those of any age, disability, or aspiring graduates interested in the field of wildlife. Additionally, in preparing for Oregon's future wildfire events, Chintimini Wildlife Center will need the necessary infrastructure and space to take in surging numbers of displaced and injured animals. Again, passing SB 1131 will help reinforce and provide the necessary infrastructure Chintimini needs to service the increasing volume of wildlife, and foster the connection between the public and wildlife.