

Submitter:	Ella Conley
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1131

Growing up in Corvallis, it quickly became clear that Chintimini Wildlife Center (CWC) is a vital part of this community. As a child, I had the opportunity to go on field trips to learn about our native flora and fauna, go to wildlife centered camps during the summer that were a formative part of my childhood, and bring many injured animals to their rehabilitation center over the years. Now, as a volunteer of over a year and a half, I've had the immense privilege of seeing firsthand and contributing to the work CWC does for the community. Not only is the community of staff and volunteers/interns fantastic and knowledgeable, but CWC's dedication to community outreach is very clear. It is incredibly rewarding to teach and engage with not only young children, but adults as well at the huge variety of events CWC goes to. CWC's partnership with OSU also enables students to develop important, hands on skills in both education and veterinary fields.

The passing of this bill would be enormously beneficial for CWC to thrive. It would enable their rehabilitation team to expand into a space that can support the increasing amount of wildlife that they are receiving over the years. Moreover, it would expand their education program by creating more accessible areas for the community to meet ambassador animals as well as allocate more resources to developing education information/signage.