

Submitter: Ellen Mendoza

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I support HB 3932. Apparently, without this bill, beavers can be hunted and killed anywhere. This bill is a small measure to allow beavers to live where they are helping water quality on public land. It is a gesture toward restoring the habitat for beavers, considering the research and evidence which show that beavers help clean water, and enhance climate resiliency by creating wetlands that protect against flooding and mitigate drought. I have worked on several projects with the Oregon Natural Desert Association to enhance riparian habitat in the hopes that it will attract beavers. We planted thousands of the willow and cottonwood sticks near rivers, so that they would root and grow. This provides food for beavers, who hopefully will come in and slow down the river with their dams.

Oregon calls itself the Beaver State, after exterminating most of the animals in the state. It is long past time to restore them to the landscape. This measure helps do that. Please pass this bill.