

Submitter: Preston Henry  
On Behalf Of: HB3932  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

My name is Preston Henry. My wife and I are farmers in Yamhill County and contrary to rural residents and farmers here we are registered Democrats with progressive philosophies (mostly). We vote independently on the merits of the candidates and the issues. Regarding the anti beaver trapping bill we are strongly opposed on the content of this bill. Not because we hate beavers but because it does not acknowledge the role ODFW plays in managing beaver populations using sound data and management. This bill is well intentioned but clearly is motivated by strong emotions and not on empirical evidence and expert input. Our farm has numerous beavers in our ponds in Deer Creek that flows through our property and plenty in the Yamhill River drainage. Most beavers are welcome and appreciated by us but occasionally some develop a taste for our filbert trees. We've found over the years that we can effectively identify the problem animals and remove them without engaging in a wholesale elimination effort. Regulated trapping as it is now managed seems reasonable. Certainly tweaks can be made where beaver introduction is needed to benefit degraded wetland ecosystems. But to be clear certain data published and aired by JPR & OPB regarding beavers citing thousands of beavers are killed each year in Oregon is questionable and needs documentation. As an ardent outdoorsman, conservation minded farmer and passionate naturalist please reconsider moving this bill forward!

Preston and Shauna Henry