

Submitter: Molly Flanagan
On Behalf Of: Wildlife Crossing Funding
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I am writing to ask for your support for funding of safe passage for wildlife (HB 2025 Sections 111 and 117). This would fund the ODOT Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Reduction Fund at an annual rate of \$10 million per biennium.

This investment is critical for everyone in the state. Currently there are more than 7000 road collisions each year involving wildlife. Our wild neighbors are under increasing pressure through climate change and habitat loss. Wildlife crossings can enable other animals to follow food and water sources, find mates, and travel as needed through all kinds of elements. each year. They can also prevent injuries and trauma to drivers.

Wildlife crossings work. Central Oregon's Lava Butte underpass on HWY 97 has reduced deer collisions by over 90%. That is a good investment for everyone.

Please sign on to this funding to make our state a safer and more sustainable home for all of its inhabitants.