

Submitter: Jean Trygstad
On Behalf Of: Bird Alliance
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Lawmakers,

Recently during a trip to Australia we spotted the Endangered Cassowary Bird (This flightless bird is one of the largest on earth and is a keystone rainforest species)on the side of the highway. The bird was trying to cross the road at a curve on the crest of the highway. It made several attempts to dart out running back and forth. Clearly it was scared. The four of us watching it's plight were terrified at the possibility of witnessing the death of this bird. For me this Cassowary represents all the wildlife that risk their lives to cross a road. The combination of many roads, fencing and reduced feeding areas means death to more wildlife than any of us understand. We can choose to protect wildlife in key areas in Oregon. Now is the time to try. Montana and other states have successfully done so. Perhaps now is our time? Yes even with competing needs for highway improvements we can choose to also protect wildlife.

Respectfully,
Jean Trygstad