

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

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and  
Members of the Committee,

Please support HB 2025 Sections 111 and 117, which establish the Oregon  
Department of Transportation (ODOT) Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Reduction Fund at  
an annual rate of \$10 million per biennium.

I am sure you know the reasons for this bill! It helps both wildlife and human safety  
by providing safe passage for wildlife around Oregon's roads and highways. It helps  
alleviate wildlife habitat fragmentation.

The good news is that we know that wildlife crossings work. The Lava Butte  
underpass on HWY 97 in central Oregon has reduced deer collisions by over 90%  
since construction.

HB 2025 Sections 111 and 117 build upon past efforts of the Legislature to address  
the problem of the loss of wildlife connectivity and the high rate of wildlife-vehicle  
collisions by establishing and sustainably funding the "Wildlife-Vehicle Collision  
Reduction Fund."

Please strongly support this bill!