

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, Committee Members

My name is Daniel Billick and I am a student at the University of Oregon School of Law, where I am pursuing a career in environmental and public interest law. I grew up in Wisconsin in a family of hunters, anglers, and hikers, and I spent most of my summers in the deep woods of northern Wisconsin.

In a lot of ways Oregon is similar to Wisconsin, which is partly why I feel so at home here. I'm able to escape into the woods and feel the wildlife around me. But this state is also unique in so many ways. It's special in its ecology, in the wildlife and the habitats in which they make their home, with the towering forests and stretching coastline. But it's also unique in the people, and specifically in the respect, passion, and pride that its people have in those natural resources. People here are proud of where they live and proud of the way they take care of it. That's reflected in this bill and in the people supporting it and it's heartening in such a divisive time to see a bill that is championed by so many different groups of people, regardless of background or political point of view.

This is a special bill because it allows the people of Oregon to show their collective pride in their state and it allows their representatives to echo that pride. This is a special opportunity to amplify that collective voice, that collective call to help preserve what makes this state so unique. I encourage you to take advantage of this special opportunity and to show your people that their passion is echoed by their representatives.

I urge you to pass this bill. Thank you.

Daniel Devereaux Billick