

Submitter: Gary Lauder

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham and members of the committee,

I am writing to urge you to support HB 2977, a bill to secure long-term, dedicated funding to recover Oregon's most imperiled fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Oregon is an incredibly special place; home to a diverse array of flora, fauna, and the habitats that support them. Unfortunately, climate change and other natural and human-made impacts put their future at risk.

There are nearly 300 species of greatest conservation need and 11 habitats of conservation concern. To combat this – and ensure all species thrive in Oregon – we need bold, proactive investments in their recovery. The bill also allocates funds for wildlife stewardship, Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, anti-poaching efforts, wildlife connectivity and invasive species control – which further bolster wildlife conservation in the state.

HB 2977 would do just that by providing a steady, sustainable source of funds to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to recover Oregon's most imperiled species and habitat and enhance biodiversity – all of which contribute to Oregon's tourism and outdoor recreation economy.

Please support HB 2977 today.

Sincerely,

Gary Lauder