

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: George, Schrader, Starr, Verger, Metsger

Nays: -

Exc.: -

Prepared By: Jim Stembridge, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Transportation to establish a wildlife safety corridor on U.S. Highway 26 between Picture Gorge and Prairie City in memory of Raymond Moles.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Memories of Raymond Moles and his efforts to protect wildlife while reducing collisions
- Numbers of mule deer in the John Day Valley adjacent to (and on) Highway 26
- Importance of the Wildlife Safety Corridor
- Speed limits and signage

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds specifics on Highway 26 and mule deer populations. Directs the departments to work with the Grant County chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association to place two road signs designating the “Raymond Moles Memorial Wildlife Safety Corridor.”

BACKGROUND: The approximately 50-mile stretch of Highway 26 through the John Day Valley is a deer and elk migration area. Wildlife crossing the highway is a safety hazard for motorists, particularly during migration seasons. Raymond Moles and others participated in efforts to mark the highway and reduce speeds.