

**From:** Lawrence Waters  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Lawrence Waters](#); [Sen Knopp](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2027  
**Date:** Saturday, May 06, 2017 5:08:46 PM

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Dear Representative Gene Whisnant,

My wife and I are writing to express our support for the proposed Deschutes River bridge just a little up river from the City of Bend city limits line and our opposition to your HB 2027. We live in River Rim and would like to see the bridge go in. Our reasons are simple:

1. The bridge will have little to no impact on wildlife in the area, other than them using it to cross the river more easily than swimming or wading. We realize a fellow that owns a parcel of ground near the bridge begs to differ with that opinion (he calls his property a wildlife refuge/sanctuary).
2. The bridge would have absolutely no impact on the State wide designation of a Wild and Scenic River, in that use of the river due to the bridge would not increase (yes, use of the trail to Sun River would increase), and no trails are proposed along the short section of river downstream up to where the designation ends at the City limits (it is all private property).
3. Recreation is a primary economic machine for Bend. Expanding the opportunities for use of surrounding and connecting trails is part of that plan for maintaining and building Bend's economic vitality.

For these reasons we are opposed to HB 2027, and especially offended by the "out of the public eye" approach used to draft this bill push it along (The Bend Bulletin today). That is not the way the public's business should be done. By the way, I was a public works director for several cities in Washington State over 25 years and therefore am very well versed in environmental issues of every kind.

Sincerely,  
Larry and Barbara Waters  
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Bend, OR 97702