

From: Karon Johnson
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: In opposition to HB 2027
Date: Monday, May 08, 2017 9:36:59 AM

Dear Sirs,

I want to submit testimony against House Bill 2027, for several reasons.

First, I dislike the manner in which it was formulated and passed the House. Rep. Whisnant's sleight-of-hand in gutting another bill and substituting this language without notice to Bend Parks & Rec or the voters in this district is despicable—the sort of legislative deception that is destroying people's faith in their democratic system of government.

Second, this bill avoids any debate on the merits of a bridge. My husband and I live on the east side of Bend and love to bicycle, but the west-side trails are largely cut off to us unless we want to load our bikes on the car and drive through Reed Market and Century Drive, which are always crowded. It would be wonderful to have a way to access the River trail without having to get in our car.

Third, this strikes me as the sort of issue which should be resolved by science. If it is indeed true that a bridge in the proposed location would disrupt elk and deer herds, and interfere with the spotted frog, then it should not be built in the proposed location/manner.

But if it is indeed true that the proposed bridge would cut traffic from east to west and increase the environmentally safe use of the river and its trails, then it should be built, without regard to a Portland multi-millionaire who doesn't want riffraff near his property.

Sincerely,
Rob and Karon Kutz
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