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**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen Knopp](#); [emily.coates@oregon.gov](mailto:emily.coates@oregon.gov); [michelleh@bendparksandrec.org](mailto:michelleh@bendparksandrec.org)  
**Subject:** Stop House Bill 2027 - stop the bill and allow the footbridge for the people of Oregon!  
**Date:** Saturday, May 06, 2017 10:57:02 AM

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Dear Senators,

It is with great disappointment that I read in the Bulletin that my Representative Gene Whisnant sponsored this trick bill that would prohibit the construction of bridges across the Deschutes River upstream of Bend. The footbridge in question is necessary for the long planned trail connection from Sunriver thru Bend to Tumalo. I live in the Tumalo area and am a Council Member of the Tumalo Business Association. I look forward to the future completed trail from Sunriver to Tumalo.

The bridge in question would be within the UGB of Bend, an area slated soon for development. It would serve many local residents providing them access to trails without having to drive long distances. The bridge would be in support of health, energy and transportation goals of the State, County and City. While employed with Oregon State Parks from 1975 to 1980, I worked with Bob Potter, State Scenic Waterway Coordinator on scenic waterways projects. As I recall, from when the Scenic Waterway Program was developed, prospective scenic waterways were rural and not located within urban boundaries. This may have been reasoning for the law allowing a one-year delay for time for local land use review as mentioned in today's Bulletin article on the subject. In any case, HB 2027 serves only the interest of several residents at the expense of many in the subject urban area of the proposed bridge and of those all the way from Sunriver to Tumalo.

If required, an exception should be made to allow for the bridge and the bridge not be prohibited. I urge you; do not support HB 2027 and vote against any senate version of the bill. Please do what is necessary to allow the footbridge to be built.

Sincerely,

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