

From: Donna Johnson
To: [SENR Exhibits](#); Sen.MichaelDembrow@state.or.us; Sen.AlanOlsen@state.or.us; Sen.HermanBaertschiger@state.or.us; [Sen Prozanski](#); [Sen Roblan](#)
Subject: Testimony in OPPOSITION of HB 2027
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 8:55:26 AM

Dear Senate Committee,

Please do not pass this bill to block bridges on the Deschutes River near Bend Oregon. This conflict is a local issue that some specially interested people with power and privilege are seeking help to get their way on.

This obstruction of "bridges" has such a familiar tone to the "Friends of Bend" group from the 90's. That group had different reasons but threatened "how things would be so awful if bridge is built", when in reality the Southern River Crossing and the beautiful parks have become a wonderful addition in so many ways to our community.

Maybe you have had the privilege of visiting Bend and walking the River trail from the Southern River Crossing (Bill Healy Bridge) to the Foot bridge and back. If you haven't please do before you vote to see what you are really voting on. It is beautiful, peaceful, and natural.

The Park District did a wonderful job respectfully handling the environment and providing access. So very many people are now able to enjoy the wonderful displays of nature in these areas. The River is a public feature. The Park district is a great steward of properties for our entire community.

Please don't pass this bill to favor a few Rich People. Think of what's best for our entire community.

By the way, the opposition that "Friends of Bend" had only stalled the process and cost our community over an extra million dollars.

Please don't do the same to our community. Please don't be a part of hand tying our community. Please do not interfere with our local issues. Yes, make sure we are respectful but step in to stop something that needs to be discussed locally first.

Thanks for listening.

Sincerely,
Donna Johnson