

**From:** Ahern  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** HB 2027  
**Date:** Monday, May 08, 2017 5:23:31 PM

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**Dear Senator Michael Dembrow:**

Thank you for accepting this correspondence by email in support of HB 2027. I am recently returning from an out- of- state trip and it is too late to rely on regular mail service to connect with you before the important hearing on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

My wife and I have been a part of the Sunrise Village Neighborhood in Bend Oregon, since 1985. The city of Bend annexed our neighborhood several years ago. Now the Bend Parks and Recreation District want to build a bridge across the Deschutes River that borders Sunrise Village, south property, to connect east to west access for high use pedestrian and bike use traffic. To do so enables a path through our development and others. The

This is an especially beautiful stretch of the Upper Deschutes River, under consideration, and covered by HB2027 as a Protected State Scenic Waterway in 1988.

This Upper Deschutes River area is pristine in all of its glory! It is a true picture of nature, quiet and serene and on any given day, one can view wildlife happily nibbling at grasses. Hearing the honking of water fowl attending to their newborns in the high weeds is a common occurrence. Croaking Oregon spotted frog habitats are part of the incredible landscape. There is an obvious risk to all of this natural beauty if a bridge is built on this protected waterway.

We call upon you to intervene. Additionally, we appreciate and applaud the OPRD for rejecting the BPRD application to weaken protections on the Upper Deschutes River in Central Oregon.

**Dan Ahern**

Private homeowner