

From: Larry Hansen
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony in opposition to HB 2027
Date: Monday, May 08, 2017 5:02:18 PM

Dear members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 2027, a back room deal designed to benefit a few property owners in Rep Whisnant's district at the expense of the many thousands of other Central Oregon residents. The shameful, under-handed method Whisnant used to get this bill through the house is disgusting. I can only assume he used a last minute "gut and stuff" to avoid public input on this nefarious bill of his. I am truly ashamed that that house passed this bill, and that Rep. Buehler voted in favor. That may cost him my vote next time.

Although the Deschutes River has some kind of "wild and scenic" designation in the area subject to this bill, and I generally support protective measure for our natural environment, the area where the proposed foot/bike bridge would be prohibited is in fact RESIDENTIAL. Putting the bridge in would do little to no harm to the habitat and the many critters in that habitat. Most of the habitat degradation that occurs on the Deschutes River in that area (and pretty much its entire watershed) is caused managed flows - and this bill would do nothing to address that issue. Yes, more people would visit that area, as they now do upstream and downstream. What is wrong with providing people the opportunity to enjoy more of the river? The natural beauty of our area should be enjoyed, and respected, by those that use it. A trail that connects Sunriver and Bend would be a great addition for local users and visitors.

Please do not approve HB 2027.

Respectfully,

Larry Hansen
2533 NW Awbrey Rd
Bend, OR 97703