

Date: May 8, 2017

To: Senate Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources Re: Support for HB 2525 with the -A3 amendments

Dear Senators Dembrow, Olsen, Baertschiger, Prozanski, and Roblan:

I am writing on behalf of Kalmiopsis Audubon. Our organization represents 350 members in Curry County who are concerned about a clean environment for people and wildlife.

We support passage of HB 2525 with the -A3 amendments that will require game donated to food banks to be tested for lead.

Lead ammunition represents the largest source of unregulated lead currently entering our environment.

There is extensive scientific literature that documents the risk of lead exposure in game meat.

Lead bullets break into small fragments that explode through the flesh of game animals presenting a high risk of exposure to people who consume game meats on a regular basis, including many rural people. The risk is most significant for children.

The -A3 amendments represent a common sense way to protect some of our most vulnerable populations from exposure to lead.

We appreciate the significant contributions made by hunters that donate game meat to food banks to help alleviate hunger in our state and believe that it should be done in a way that minimizes risks from lead.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

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Ann Vileisis President, Kalmiopsis Audubon Society