

From: Don Shaw
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: House Bill 2027
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:39:03 PM

Dear Legislators,

I am writing in opposition to House Bill 2027. I have lived in Oregon since 1973 and in Central Oregon since 2009. Like so many Oregonians, I treasure access to the out-of-doors areas of our state. Decades ago Oregon adopted the idea that our ocean beaches belong to the public, not to private owners. One needs merely to visit states who do not have such laws to appreciate what a great treasure we have in our open access to the ocean. I have the same general attitude toward river access, especially as one who loves to fish, but also as one who hikes and walks a good deal. While I claim no specific knowledge about the pros and cons of the proposed bridge location over the Deschutes River, I do strongly believe that the public should have access to the river and its banks to the greatest extent possible – especially in and around an urban area such as Bend. Riparian rights ought to belong to the people, not to a small sub-group of the people.

I urge you to vote against a legislative end-run around the planning of our public agencies. They are there to serve the people, and are in most cases responsive to the desires of the people. This is as it should be. House Bill 2027 will disempower them and render useless the considerable planning they have done to date regarding this particular portion of the Deschutes River. Let the democratic process run its course. If you feel compelled to legislate, do so in favor of **expanding** the access of the citizens of Oregon to its geographical treasures, not **reducing** it!

Thank you,
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