

From: [Hunter C. Mackin](#)
To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
Subject: Please support HB2834
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:10:51 PM

To whom it may concern,

I wish to state and emphasize my support for HB 2834, which is scheduled for a public hearing by the House Natural Resource Committee on Thursday 3/14. This bill would require the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with Department of Transportation, to develop a Wildlife Corridor and Safe Road Crossing Action Plan for use by state agencies.

Wildlife corridors have enormous success in reducing the amount of animals killed by passing vehicles. Too often, I see animals, both small and large, on the side (or even the middle) of the road, the cause of death all too clear. While hardly anyone would consider this anything but tragic, it's a difficult problem to tackle. Wildlife corridors are effective solutions.

Not only do wildlife corridors reduce the number of animals killed in accidents, it reduces the number of humans killed in them too. From collisions with deer alone, 200 humans die every year, with an additional \$1.1 billion in property damage. Wildlife corridors can reduce these numbers substantially.

On a more personal note, my girlfriend's little sister was driving on a well-traversed highway in Oregon about two years ago now, when both tragedy and danger struck. A baby deer bolted from the side of the road and into the front of her car, nearly throwing her off the road or into oncoming traffic. The baby deer was less lucky. Horribly mangled, it did not survive. Every time she sees a deer now, she chokes up, feeling responsible for the accident. Meanwhile, I shudder to think of what may have happened had the deer been larger.

All in all, this incident, and others like it, may have been preventable with wildlife corridors. Hopefully, with the stroke of your pen, you may prevent many others.

Sincerely,
Hunter Mackin