

May 20th 2019

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 NE Court Street
Salem, Oregon

Re: Support for House Bill 2841 (sensitive wildlife location data bill)

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Olsen and Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

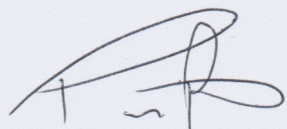
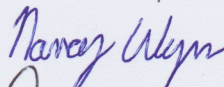
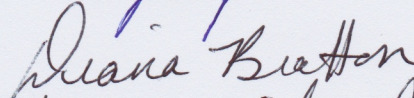
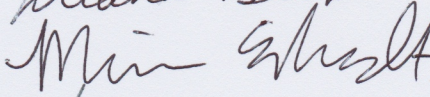
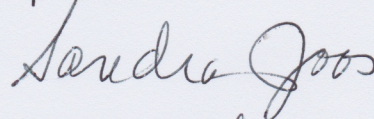
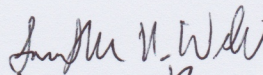
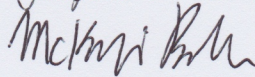
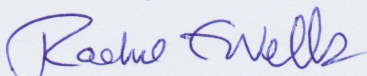
Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 2841. We are residents of Oregon, wildlife enthusiasts and community members who are involved in voluntary programs that monitor wildlife in the state. We write to you today to urge you to support HB 2841, a bill that we think is extremely crucial for the safety and protection of wildlife that we help monitor.

As community members and users of Oregon's natural areas, we strongly value the rich wildlife and natural diversity our state has to offer. However, with the ever growing instances of poaching in the state, it is getting harder for both state agencies and conservation minded groups and people to protect vulnerable populations of wildlife. We support state agencies and conservation groups by volunteering for wildlife monitoring programs and helping them set up and monitor trail cameras as well as engage in field tracking. The information we collect is shared with wildlife conservation groups and public agencies that benefit from the data and can make good decisions on protecting and conservation our wildlife. However, our data is sometimes sensitive and it is very much concerning to us that the data we collect can be misused by those with wrong intentions. We do not want to be a part of the growing poaching problem and definitely do not want our hard work to lead to increased risk for the wildlife that we help monitor.

We, therefore, urge you to support HB 2841 as a step toward addressing the problem of poaching, and promoting ethical hunting in Oregon. Our wildlife is a precious natural resource and we need to protect it for the current and future generation of Oregonians.

Thanking you

Sincerely

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 Nancy Wynne - Portland, OR
 Diana Bratten Banks, OR
 Miriam Eckardt Portland, OR
 Sandra Joos Portland, OR
 Samantha Webb - Gladstone, OR
 McKenzie Barker - Salem, OR
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