HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 4130

By COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

February 8

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"Whereas a statewide survey of Oregon voters conducted for The Pew Charitable Trusts in 2020 found that 86 percent of Oregonians believe it is important for the state to adopt policies that protect wildlife migration routes and 75 percent of Oregonians support increasing public funding for the construction of wildlife crossing structures; and

"Whereas wildlife road crossing structures have proven to increase public safety and to be effective at reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions, facilitating essential wildlife migration and promoting healthy wildlife populations; and

"Whereas the legislature recognizes the need for ongoing focus and sustained investment to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve habitat connectivity in this state; and

"Whereas allocation of state resources can help Oregon better compete for federal funds that are available to support wildlife road crossings; now, therefore,".

Delete lines 15 through 29.

On page 2, delete lines 1 through 6 and insert:

"SECTION 1. (1) In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Transportation, for the biennium ending June 30, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$7,000,000 for the purpose of funding projects that reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve habitat connectivity for wildlife as defined in ORS 496.004. This appropriation is available continuously until expended for the purpose specified in this section.

- "(2) The department shall consult with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife when distributing moneys appropriated under this section, and shall take into consideration relevant information, including the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan described in ORS 496.272, the Oregon Connectivity Assessment and Mapping Project and the Oregon Conservation Strategy adopted by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission.
 - "(3) The Department of Transportation:
- "(a) May distribute moneys under this section for the full range of wildlife corridor project needs, including but not limited to project feasibility studies, planning, construction, retrofit and maintenance of wildlife road crossing infrastructure, roadkill tracking and studies, animal detection systems, signage, directional fencing and wildlife jump outs.
- "(b) Shall prioritize distributions for projects that fill funding gaps for wildlife road crossings and habitat connectivity that are not otherwise budgeted for or required under other federal or state obligations.
- "(c) May partner with or make distributions under this section to tribes, counties, cities or other public or private entities for projects consistent with the purposes and requirements

1 of this section.

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"(d) May make distributions under this section to assist projects with state match requirements of federal grant programs relating to wildlife corridors.".

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