Submitter: Joseph Spampinato

On Behalf

Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and

Water

Measure: HB2999

Dear Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Hartman and Owens, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2999. I am active outdoor enthusiast, hunter and business owner in Bend, Oregon.

Human activities continue to take a great toll on wildlife. Increasing vehicle traffic from a growing Central Oregon population is one area we know how to address and can do so relatively cheaply. HB 2999 would provide important support to help address wildlife habitat connectivity and motorist safety concerns across the state by:

Improving ODOT's program to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and implement mitigation projects.

Allocating \$5 million to support on-the-ground work to reconnect wildlife corridors. Improving Oregon's ability to compete for federal funding through the IIJA Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program and other federal grant programs.

I strongly support HB 2999 and ask that you pass HB 2999 during the 2023 legislative session.

Thank you for your service,

Joseph Spampinato