



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501 • (541) 772-7313

oha@oregonhunters.org • oregonhunters.org

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House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
RE: HB 3247

Chair Helm, Vice-chairs Hartman and Owens, Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is Oregon's largest state-centric hunter conservation organization, representing 10,000 sportsmen and women throughout 26 chapters in the state. Our mission statement is 'to protect Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage' and we have a strong history of advocating for science-based wildlife management.

OHA supports HB 3247 and the investment of increased funding for the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) at Oregon State University. As a facility fully accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics, the OVDL provides an immense value to Oregonians. The breadth of testing the OVDL processes benefits not just Oregonians but also our wildlife and environment.

Earlier this session, OHA brought HB 2532 before this committee requesting funding for the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and the OVDL, specific to sample collection and testing capacity for Chronic Wasting Disease. We thank the committee for passing that bill out of committee with a 'do pass' recommendation and we respectfully request the same outcome for HB 3247.

OHA looks forward to supporting both HB 2532 and HB 3247 as they progress through the legislative process.

Thank you,

Amy Patrick
Policy Director