

Submitter: Lonnan McIntyre  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB3390

Hello my name is Lonnan McIntyre and I oppose HB3390. If HB3390 would pass it would not only make fur buying/selling illegal in Oregon but the use of fishing lures made with squirrel hair and many other products that use "fur". There is no system in place to track if fur has been previously purchased there is no way to track it. This bill would unfairly affect sportsman who trap fur bearers on their own time with their own funds providing free damage control to ranchers, forestry workers, etc. The fur harvested helps trappers recoup a fraction of their funding that is spent throughout the season. Trapping provides lower population densities of predators leading to lower outbreaks of disease and lower casualties from fighting over habitat. This bill would have helped a over a hundred years ago when hunting and trapping weren't regulated however in this day and age hunting and trapping are necessary wildlife management tools providing billions of dollars in federal and state taxes in addition to the millions of dollars raised through license and tag sales for conservation. This bill HB3390 has no real purpose other than to make it harder for people who manage animals to do so at less cost to the state. At this moment trappers help keep nuisance animal numbers at a manageable level and therefore conflict with people is also lower. If we ban fur buying and selling why not leather? Why not ban the use of feathers? Leather is animal hide but from a cow and the tanning process is much more harmful than the tanning process of fur. It has been estimated that the muskrat population could dive by 85% in one year and by next year/ season the population will have recovered. We call this a sustainable resource. Fur is better for the environment as it actually breaks down unlike fake fur putting micro plastic into our water and our bodies. This fur ban is nothing more than a grab for votes from people who don't talk to biologists or understand how wildlife management works. It's hypocritical to ban fur but not leather especially because leather is worse for the environment. If we ban fur buying you will see decreases trapping and increases in overpopulation and disease and e state will have to spend hundreds of thousands if not millions to hire trappers to keep populations down. It will cost the taxpayer down the road and it's already a service provided by trappers at their own expense. I feel there are better ways to spend state money like healthcare, affordable housing, hydroelectric power etc. Thank you for your time and consideration.