

Submitter: Nick Forsburg
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB3390

I am writing in opposition to this bill as currently written. An exemption for the use of fur, feathers, hair, and other natural fibers for the commercial and private production of fishing lures and flies must be included. Fishing, fly fishing, and fly tying are part of Oregon's heritage and are outdoor related pursuits enjoyed by thousands of Oregonians. There are many small business including fly shops, wholesalers, and producers, that are located in the state of Oregon that would be irreparably impacted by this bill. Many of these small business are of critical importance to fly tiers and fisherman nationally and internationally and serve as an important part of the economy of many small communities. Many of these small communities where these businesses are located are critically reliant on outdoor tourism related income from in-state and out of state sources. I am a resident of the state of Washington (and one time resident of Oregon) but I rely on many of the fly shops and wholesalers located in Oregon to provide high-quality materials that are sustainably and humanly produced for the purpose of creating artificial flies for fishing and for the services these business provide when recreating and fishing in Oregon.

I urge the legislature to remove this bill or provide an explicit exemption for the use of these materials for fishing and outdoor related pursuits. This bill is another example of a solution in search of a problem at best and a means to reduce economic activity at worst.