

Submitter: Heidi Hart-Zorin

On Behalf  
Of:

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

Measure: HB3086

Here is my testimony in opposition of HB 3086:

Under current law the Fish and Wildlife Commission consists of seven members, with one appointed from each congressional district, one from east of the Cascades, and one from west of the Cascades. After redistricting, and the addition of another congressional district in Oregon, now requires a change in the statute.

Please oppose HB 3086. I urge the legislature to support a technical fix rather than a wholesale change to the way the commission is structured.

This bill would move the Fish and Wildlife Commission structure away from proportional representation. Because members of the commission are to serve and represent the public interest at-large, it's important for the structure to remain proportionate to population – ensuring that we have a diverse candidate pool that reflects Oregon's changing demographics.

The model proposed in HB 3086 would dilute the voice of the public at large and reduce diversity on the Commission.

I support maintaining a seven-member commission that is proportionate to population. This will ensure that the public interest in fish, wildlife, and habitat will be represented equitably.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Heidi Hart-Zorin