

## <u>Testimony of Humane Voters Oregon on House Bill 4148</u> House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

February 6, 2024

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

Humane Voters Oregon is a nonprofit organization that works in Oregon's political process and elections to promote humane treatment of animals. We are not affiliated with any other state or national organization.

Humane Voters Oregon supports House Bill 4148.

HB 4148 would create and fund several programs to help protect and restore Oregon's wildlife populations. The programs also would lead to more humane treatment of wildlife by improving wildlife habitat and expanding on coexistence strategies for dealing with human-wildlife conflict.

In particular, sections 6-8 of the bill would direct further planning by state agencies to protect and restore migration corridors for wildlife, in part by planning for wildlife highway crossings that reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions. Sections 5 and 9 would create and fund a program within the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife that "aims to reduce conflicts and promote coexistence between humans and wildlife." We strongly support these efforts.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Brian Posewitz Director