

Submitter: Sue Dougherty

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2980

As a veterinarian, a wildlife photographer and the president of the Board of Directors for Think Wild, a wildlife rehabilitation, conservation and education center in Bend, Oregon, I strongly support this Bill. I hope it will be the beginning of many more to support the positive work that is being done on behalf of wildlife and to educate humans about the importance of each species in the ecosystem. Humane conflict mitigation is not only possible but should be the norm. As one example, human induced suffering by wildlife is avoidable in many cases, such as the lead poisoning that frequently occurs to our raptors as critical top level consumers in the food chain, ingesting toxic lead from ammunition. Wildlife of all varieties are essential to the functioning of a balanced ecosystem and because of human caused problems that balance is often askew. It is so important to support this Bill and thus support our natural world. As John Muir put it: " When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it is attached to the rest of the world".