

Submitter: Karla Harris  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2980

Passage of the Wildlife Stewardship Program HB 2980 will promote wildlife stewardship and reduce human-wildlife conflicts throughout Oregon.

Through volunteering for the past several years at an Oregon wildlife rehabilitation center I have witnessed the hard work that goes into building and running such a facility. I have always loved animals but being involved in this work has given me a much deeper and more meaningful appreciation and respect for all wildlife. During this time I have also witnessed the general public as well as family and friends become interested in learning more and an eagerness to help keep wildlife wild and safe.

Passage of HB 2980 will provide much needed support for Oregon's wildlife rehabilitation network. This will directly increase public education and awareness which will in turn reduce incidents of human-wildlife conflicts for years to come through the inevitable population growth and habitat loss we experience. Increased public education and awareness will enable native wildlife in and around our communities to be viewed with the empathy, respect, and fair treatment that is deserved.

Thank you for considering this bill that is very important to me and will be beneficial to our beautiful state.