

Submitter: David Sweet

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362

Wildlife-vehicle collisions are bad for people, and they're bad for wildlife. It's a real problem in Oregon, with 7,000 collisions on average every year. An average of four Oregonians each year die in this manner annually, and hundreds are seriously injured in these tragic incidents.

This problem is also costly. Along with lost human and animal life, deer collisions cost \$114 million per year and elk collisions have cost Oregonians an estimated \$26 million.

But there is a solution. Existing crossings on U.S. 97 in Oregon have reduced deer collisions by more than 90 percent. Eighty-six percent of Oregon voters want the state to build more crossings, and 75% support increased funding to build those crossings.

Sincerely,

David Sweet