

Submitter: Mika Olin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3362  
Co-Chair Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Davis, and Members of the Committee:

As a resident of Oregon, who has made the decision to live here in no small part because of our access to natural spaces and protecting our environment and wildlife, as well as a mom who frequently drives on our roads and highways and hopes to keep my family safe, I am asking you to support HB 3362

I have learned that each year in Oregon, there are over 7,000 wildlife-vehicle collisions with large animals. On average, four people die and over 500 people are seriously injured. While the cost of these collisions on Oregon roadways is likely more than \$100 million each year, what I think of more is the impacts to the families impacted, which is incalculable. I say this as someone who was in a severe highway accident as a teenager, which drastically altered the course of my life.

I absolutely support efforts to establish and improve wildlife crossing structures which are a proven, popular, and cost-effective technique to improve public safety and restore habitat connectivity. As humans, we do not exist in a vacuum, and we owe it to the wildlife and natural spaces we are lucky to share space with to do all we can to protect them.

Oregon needs a permanent source of funding to implement state programs and projects to improve motorist and wildlife safety. Permanent funding would:

Improve the safety of Oregon's roadways

Remove barriers to wildlife

Make Oregon more competitive in capturing federal funding

Please protect both our wildlife and our communities by supporting HB 3362.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mika Olin

