

Submitter: Amber Gomes
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:

I am an Oregon resident asking you to support HB 3362.

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. The cost of these collisions on Oregon roadways is likely more than \$100 million each year. Just last night in Bend, I drove by a 4x4 which had hit a large mule deer. The deer was dead and the vehicle seriously damaged requiring a police response and clean up.

Fortunately, there is a solution. Wildlife crossing structures are a proven, popular, and cost-effective technique to improve public safety and restore habitat connectivity.

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, sincerely, for your time and consideration!

Regards,

Amber