

Submitter: Beth Workman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I support this bill because beavers do so many positive things for our communities. Their work in waterways do the following:

- Increase water storage: Their dams slow down the flow of water, allowing it to accumulate and be stored in the ponds, increasing surface water storage. ?
- Groundwater Recharge: ?The water stored in the ponds can then seep into the ground, recharging groundwater aquifers and increasing the water table. ?
- Flood Mitigation: ?By slowing down the flow of water, beaver dams can help reduce flood peaks and mitigate the risk of flooding during heavy rainfall events. ?
- Habitat Creation: ?The ponds and wetlands created by beavers provide diverse habitats for various plant and animal species, contributing to a healthy ecosystem. ?
- Water Quality: ?Beaver ponds can also improve water quality by filtering out sediments and pollutants, reducing stream temperatures, and increasing nutrient availability.

When beavers thrive, they benefit a host of other species, including human communities. Beavers improve stream health, increase climate resilience, and promote fire resistance. Beavers are incredibly effective at improving water quality.