

Testimony on: SB0635, *Wildlife Connectivity and Crossings Act*  
Committee; Education, Energy and Environment  
Hearing Date: March 4, 2025  
Position: Support

I support this bill because it saves both human and wild animal lives while yielding societal net cost savings.

The number of vehicle/wild animal accidents has been well-documented, including the number of human injuries/deaths and the costs. Building wildlife crossing have been shown to not just save lives, but to also yield a societal net financial benefit.

Experts in many disciplines came together last year to develop a consensus document about these crossings. It includes recommendations for the development of climate-informed wildlife crossings for both human and animal well-being.<sup>1</sup>

The Federal government has numerous funding programs, some requiring matches, some not, that can be drawn upon.<sup>2, 3</sup> Even if the current administration cuts the funding, it will only be temporary.

I note that passing this legislation will set us up for a future time when the State budget allows funding. It does not include a provision for direct funding at this time. In the meantime, Federal funding can be accessed.

Please vote in favor of this much needed bill, SB0635.

Thank-you,

Dorothy Broadman

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<sup>1</sup> Multiple Consensus Authors, [Joint Statement Regarding Climate-Informed Wildlife Crossing](#), Pew Charitable Trust, February 14, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Administration, [Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program](#).

<sup>3</sup> 3.National Parks Conservation Association, Wildlands Network, ARC Solutions, [IJA-Wildlife-Infrastructure-Funding-Guide](#).