

Senate Finance

03/31/2026

SB26-141 Wildlife Collision Prevention

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Janine Reid</p> <p>For</p> <p>League of Women Voters of Colorado</p>	<p>3/31/26</p> <p>SB26-141 Wildlife Collision Prevention</p> <p>Thank you Chair, Members of the Committee, and Sponsors:</p> <p>I am Janine Reid, volunteer lobbyist for the League of Women Voters of Colorado, speaking in support of SB26-141. As you may know, the League has been nonpartisan all our 106 years, using our often-long-standing positions to take stances on bills and ballot measures. We support SB26-141.</p> <p>I live in Hotchkiss, Colorado on the Western Slope and am very familiar with wildlife on, near and above our roads. I frequently drive throughout this rural area and dodge deer, turkey, and smaller animals all year long. The bill’s objective of reducing motor vehicle crashes with wildlife by supporting all aspects of planning, engineering, building, and maintaining safe passage infrastructure on Colorado’s most dangerous roadways would go a long way to making our roads safe for motorists and wildlife.</p> <p>The League believes the voluntary \$5 collision prevention fee to be collected during annual vehicle registrations beginning in 2027 is very reasonable. We support dividing the dollars with 75% going towards building safe passages for wildlife in hotspot areas and 25% of the funds administered by Colorado Parks and Wildlife to conserve habitat on either side of crossings.</p> <p>Over and underpasses allow animals to safely reach critical habitat during migration. Crossings in the past have been paid through one-</p>

	<p>time general fund allocations and federal grant awards, but there are dozens more identified wildlife-vehicle collision areas. With the current deficit in the state budget and the reduction of federal funds, collecting this voluntary fee toward a new Collision Prevention Fund and contributing to the Colorado Wildlife Safe Passage Fund may allow for more wildlife crossing infrastructure to be built for the safety of all.</p> <p>We ask for your support of SB26-141.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
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