

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2534

Ordered by the House March 13
Including House Amendments dated March 13

Sponsored by Representatives WITT, MCKEOWN; Representatives HELM, LIVELY, REARDON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Directs State Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules prohibiting use of drones for [*angling or hunting*] **certain purposes related to pursuit of wildlife.**

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the regulation of drones by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

3 Whereas it is the intent of the Legislative Assembly that the wildlife laws embody the sporting
4 ethic of fair chase hunting as it relates to the use of drones in the pursuit of wildlife; now, therefore,

5 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

6 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Fish and Wildlife Commission shall adopt rules prohibiting the**
7 **use of drones for the following purposes related to the pursuit of wildlife:**

8 (a) **Angling;**

9 (b) **Hunting;**

10 (c) **Trapping;**

11 (d) **Aiding angling, hunting or trapping through the use of drones to harass, track, locate**
12 **or scout wildlife; and**

13 (e) **Interfering in the acts of a person who is lawfully angling, hunting or trapping.**

14 (2) **Rules adopted to carry out the prohibitions provided for in this section may include**
15 **exemptions for:**

16 (a) **Subject to ORS 837.360 and 837.365, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the**
17 **department's agents and contractors for the use of drones in carrying out the duties of the**
18 **department; or**

19 (b) **The use of drones in a manner otherwise prohibited under this section if the purpose**
20 **of the use is to benefit wildlife management or habitat or for the protection of property.**

21 (3) **Nothing in this section is meant to limit the use of drones by a person who is lawfully**
22 **engaging in activities authorized under the commercial fishing laws.**

23 (4) **As used in this section, "drone" means:**

24 (a) **An unmanned flying machine;**

25 (b) **An unmanned water-based vehicle; or**

26 (c) **Any other vehicle that is able to operate in the air, in or under the water or on land,**
27 **either remotely or autonomously, and without a human occupant.**

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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.