

SB 372 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Hansell

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Action Date: 03/30/17

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting subsequent referral to Ways and Means be rescinded. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Olsen, Prozanski, Roblan

Exc: 1 - Baertschiger Jr

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs State Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to adopt rules for the issuance of wildlife salvage permits (permit) to recover, possess, use or transport deer or elk that have been accidentally killed as a result of a vehicle collision when purpose is to salvage game meat for human consumption. Requires holder of permit to promptly surrender deer or elk antlers to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Exempts state of Oregon from liability for loss or damage arising out of activities under permit. Prohibits issuance of permit for animal killed under the humane euthanasia statute (ORS 498.016) unless the applicant accidentally rendered the animal crippled or helpless as the driver of a vehicle involved in a collision with the animal. Directs ODFW to make salvage permits available for issuance no later than January 1, 2019. Directs ODFW to prepare and submit report on implementation of salvage permit rules to legislative committees during the 2023 session. Repeals permit authority effective January 1, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Approximately 20 states have salvage permit programs
- Possibility of someone intentionally hitting an animal with vehicle to use program
- Current humane euthanasia statute

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Specifies wildlife salvage permit (permit) is for purpose of using game meat for human consumption. Prohibits issuance of permit for animal killed under the humane euthanasia statute (ORS 498.016) unless the applicant accidentally rendered the animal crippled or helpless as the driver of a vehicle involved in a collision with the animal. Exempts State of Oregon for liability for loss or damage arising out of activities under permit.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, a person may kill crippled or helpless wildlife when the killing is done for humane purposes (ORS 498.016). Such action must be immediately reported to a person authorized to enforce the wildlife laws and the wildlife must be disposed of as directed by the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Senate Bill 372A would direct the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules for the issuance of wildlife salvage permits to allow the use for human consumption of game meat from deer and elk accidentally killed as the result of a car accident. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife would be directed to prepare and submit a report on the program to the 2023 Legislative Assembly. Program authority would sunset on January 1, 2024.