

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 4 - 1 - 0
Yeas: George G., Johnson, Morrisette, Verger
Nays: George L.
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Judith Callens, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Reduces number of permit renewals from 1,200 to 1,000 for determination when Department of Fish and Wildlife shall issue permits by lottery system for ocean troll salmon fishery. Establishes categories of vessels by size and corresponding fees for permits issued under lottery system. Specifies that when a vessel in one category does not renew its permit, only a vessel in the same size category or smaller may qualify for that permit.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Condition of ocean salmon fishery
- Boat size categories reflect overall catch capacity
- Permits may be sold; impact on permit value
- Reduction of permits through attrition

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Ocean commercial salmon fishing regulations are set annually by the Pacific Fishery Management Council in federal waters (3-200 miles off shore) and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in state waters (0-3 miles off shore). From 2000 to 2006, Oregon trollers landed an average of 2.6 million pounds of salmon per year with a value of \$11.7 million dollars. In recent years, the number of commercial troll permit renewals has fallen below the 1,200 permit threshold under ORS 508.819, requiring the Department to issue new permits through a lottery system. For the last two years, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission has suspended the lottery due to the condition of the salmon fishery and in anticipation of this industry sponsored modification. HB 3541 reduces the number of annual permit renewals that determines when the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife shall issue new permits by a lottery system for the ocean commercial salmon fishery and it establishes size categories and corresponding fees for permits issued under the lottery. Reduction in the number of permits will occur through attrition. The modification is aimed at helping prevent new capitalization in the fishery.