

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference

**Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

**Yeas:** Atkinson, Bates, Beyer, Avakian

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** Prozanski

**Prepared By:** Sue Marshall, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 4/3

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Directs the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a 25-year plan to enhance opportunities for angling in Oregon. Requires the department to provide a full-time equivalent employee to work on angling matters. Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the department to pay the costs of the 25-year plan and full-time employee. Sunsets on January 2, 2010. Declares an emergency and is effective July 1, 2007.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Economic impact of recreational fishing to rural and coastal communities
- Possible expansion of stocking hatchery fish and impact on wild species
- Declining numbers of anglers and impact on department's fee based budget
- Marketing strategies to increase the number of anglers

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has experienced a decline in the issuance of angling licenses during recent years. There is concern about the department's ability to fully conduct its duties in the future with a continued loss in revenue from declining license fee revenues.

Senate Bill 680 directs the department to develop a 25-year plan to promote angling opportunities in Oregon. Topics to be included in the plan include the effects of increased population on angling opportunities, marketing strategies to recruit new anglers and development of pilot programs that could be funded in future years. The measure directs all other government agencies to cooperate with ODFW in the development of the plan. The measure is limited in duration and directs the department to report back to the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly by February 1, 2007.