

Senate Joint Memorial 15

Sponsored by Senators L GEORGE, BEYER (at the request of Oregon Sportsmen's Association, Oregon Anglers)

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 **as introduced**.

Urges United States Secretary of Commerce to approve tri-state application regarding lethal removal of California sea lions from Columbia River as means of protecting salmon and steelhead that are threatened or endangered.

JOINT MEMORIAL

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2 To the United States Secretary of Commerce:

3 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in leg-
4 islative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

5 Whereas salmon and steelhead are listed as threatened or endangered species under the En-
6 dangered Species Act of 1973; and

7 Whereas California sea lions are having a significant negative impact on the recovery of salmon
8 and steelhead in the Pacific Northwest; and

9 Whereas the Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington Department of Fish
10 and Wildlife and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, in cooperation with the National Marine
11 Fisheries Service and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, have conducted a great deal of
12 research to document and track this growing problem as well as two years of unsuccessful nonlethal
13 tests and programs to reduce the number of sea lions and their predation rates; and

14 Whereas the Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington Department of Fish
15 and Wildlife and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have concluded that a lethal removal op-
16 tion is necessary to gain control of the sea lion situation and reduce the risk of increasing the
17 predation losses; and

18 Whereas the Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington Department of Fish
19 and Wildlife and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have submitted a tri-state application to
20 the National Marine Fisheries Service for the intentional lethal removal of California sea lions; and

21 Whereas the United States Secretary of Commerce, acting through the National Oceanic and
22 Atmospheric Administration's Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, determined that the states' ap-
23 plication contained sufficient information to warrant establishing a Pinniped-Fishery Interaction
24 Task Force; and

25 Whereas this Pinniped-Fishery Interaction Task Force has requested public comment relating to
26 the application to allow the intentional lethal removal of California sea lions as a means of pro-
27 tecting salmon and steelhead that are threatened or endangered; now, therefore,

28 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

29 That the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly respectfully urges the United States Secretary of
30 Commerce to approve the tri-state application with the utmost expedience; and be it further

31 Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the United States Secretary of Com-

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.

1 merce and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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