## 75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Sustainability & Economic Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on

**MEASURE:** 

**CARRIER:** 

HB 2579 A

Ways & Means

**Vote:** 7 - 1 - 0

Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Galizio, Holvey, Thatcher, Witt, Read

Nays: Gilliam Exc.: 0

**Prepared By:** Barbara Allen, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 4/21, 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates Task Force on Lower Columbia River Salmon Harvest Allocation and delineates its representation and duties, including recommendations for legislation relating to additional commercial and recreational fishing opportunities and fishing gear that may enhance commercial fisheries and provide additional access to hatchery salmon. Requires task force to choose a mediator to facilitate meetings and requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to pay for expenses related to mediator as well as provide staff support and reimburse some members for travel and other expenses.

Requires a consensus report by January 1, 2011, and delineates penalties if requirement is not met. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Concern that original measure would not evaluate impact on wild salmonids in streams adjacent to off-channel enhancement areas as well as adding a conservation purpose to measure
- ODFW to develop a work plan, no later than February 1, 2010, to transition from use of gillnets on main stem of lower Columbia River to other fishing gear
- · Representation on task force to study recreational and commercial fishing on Lower Columbia

## **EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission is, along with its Washington State counterpart, responsible for the rules to ensure both the maintenance of optimum food fish levels as well as the harvest management of food fish in the Columbia River.

The measure's task force is required to make recommendations for legislation that will seek to maximize the long term viability, predictability, resilience and diversity of all sectors of the state's fishing economy.