

House Bill 2628

Sponsored by Representative WITT; Representatives BAILEY, BARKER, BARNHART, BOONE, CANNON, CLEM, DEMBROW, GARRETT, GREENLICK, HARKER, HOLVEY, KOMP, ROBLAN, SCHAUFLEER, SHIELDS, STIEGLER, VANORMAN, Senators DEVLIN, HASS, JOHNSON, MONNES ANDERSON, MONROE

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**.

Authorizes moneys available for access and habitat programs to be expended on programs that promote access to public and private lands through acquisition of lands or through acquisition of easements.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Access and Habitat Board; amending ORS 496.232.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 496.232 is amended to read:

5 496.232. (1) The Access and Habitat Board shall meet, adopt and recommend to the State Fish
6 and Wildlife Commission, within 120 days after November 4, 1993, and at not more than 120-day in-
7 tervals thereafter, access and habitat programs.

8 (2) The commission shall review such programs and may approve or disapprove the program
9 recommendation by the board. Funds may be expended from the subaccount referred to in ORS
10 496.242 for projects that have been approved by the commission.

11 (3) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the board jointly shall submit to each biennial
12 session of the Legislative Assembly a report on expenditure of funds for the access and habitat
13 programs and on the status of various projects.

14 (4) In recommending access and habitat programs, the board shall:

15 (a) Recommend a mix of projects that provides a balance between access and habitat benefits.

16 (b) Recommend projects that are to be implemented by volunteers under volunteer coordinators
17 and nonprofit organizations engaged in approved access and habitat activities.

18 (c) Recommend programs that recognize and encourage the contributions of landowners to
19 wildlife and programs that minimize the economic loss to those landowners.

20 (d) Encourage agreements with landowners who request damage control hunts to ensure public
21 access to those hunts.

22 (e) Encourage projects that result in obtaining matching funds from other sources.

23 (5) All moneys made available for the access and habitat programs from surcharges received
24 under section 19, chapter 659, Oregon Laws 1993, and from gifts and grants made to carry out the
25 access and habitat programs may be expended only if the board so recommends and the commission
26 so approves. Such amounts may be expended:

27 (a) On programs that benefit wildlife by improving habitat. These programs shall be in coordi-
28 nation with the Wildlife Division and shall be in addition to programs provided by federal funds.

29 These programs may:

30 (A) Be on private lands.

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 (B) Provide seed and fertilizer to offset forage consumed by wildlife and for other programs that
2 enhance forage.

3 (C) Be adjacent to agricultural and forest land to attract animals from those crops.

4 (b) On programs that promote access to public and private lands:

5 (A) Through contracting for various levels of management of these lands. These management
6 programs may include:

7 [(A)] (i) Creating hunting lease programs that provide access at present levels or stimulate new
8 access.

9 [(B)] (ii) Controlling access.

10 [(C)] (iii) Opening vehicle access.

11 [(D)] (iv) Promoting land exchanges.

12 [(E)] (v) Promoting proper hunting behavior.

13 **(B) Through the acquisition of these lands or through the acquisition of easements.**

14 (c) On programs that would provide for wildlife feeding to alleviate damage, to intercept wildlife
15 before wildlife becomes involved in a damage situation and for practical food replacement in severe
16 winters.

17 (d) On programs to coordinate volunteers to improve habitat, repair damage to fences or roads
18 by wildlife or recreationists, monitor orderly hunter utilization of public and private lands and assist
19 the Oregon State Police in law enforcement activities.

20 (e) On programs that provide for auction or raffle of tags to provide incentives for habitat or
21 access.

22 (6) The board may accept, from whatever source, gifts or grants for the purposes of access and
23 habitat. All moneys so accepted shall be deposited in the subaccount referred to in ORS 496.242.
24 Unless otherwise required by the terms of a gift or grant, gifts or grants shall be expended as pro-
25 vided in subsection (5) of this section.

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