

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 7 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Boone, Keny-Guyer, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Bailey, Gilliam
Nays: 0
Exc.: Bentz
Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates lottery system for ocean troll salmon fishery. Removes provisions limiting transfer to certain vessels. Stipulates Act does not affect validity of permits issued or renewed prior to effective date of Act. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Permits will increase in value without lottery system
- History and current status of this limited entry fishery

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Entry into the ocean troll salmon fishery was unrestricted until 1980 when a permit moratorium was adopted. Although 4,311 vessels already had Oregon troll permits, a goal of 2,400 vessels licensed to troll for salmon in Oregon was established. The 1993 Oregon Legislative Assembly lowered the ocean troll permit goal to 1,800 vessels, and following the recommendations of an industry panel that reviewed the troll permit status, the 1995 Legislature lowered the permit cap even further to 1,200. As of 1999, the permit numbers had dropped below the 1,200 cap, and lottery proceedings took place in 2001 to issue available permits. In recent years, approximately one third of the issued permits are actually fished in any given season.