

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Clem, Esquivel, Krieger, McKeown, Reardon, Thompson, Unger, Whitsett, Witt
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/7, 3/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Extends sunset on landowner preference tags program to January 2, 2020. Authorizes transfer of landowner preference tags for hunting deer or elk to person of landowner's choosing according to specified formula. Requires number of tags issued for mule deer be based on management, research and habitat needs set forth in mule deer management plan. Directs Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement Oregon Landowner Damage Program (Program) to address damage caused by elk on privately owned lands in Oregon. Limits use of damage tags to antlerless elk. Sunsets Program on January 2, 2020. Changes sunset date on Southwest Oregon Landowner Preference Pilot Program to December 31, 2013. Amends definition of "immediate family" to include brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law for purposes of certain wildlife statutes. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- How damage is assessed under Southwest Oregon Landowner Preference Pilot Program
- Stakeholder group agreement on changes to both programs
- Original purpose of landowner preference program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: The Landowner Preference Program (LOP) was first established by the Legislative Assembly in 1981. The program allows the landowner and eligible applicants to hunt on the landowners' property. The LOP is scheduled to sunset on January 2, 2014. House Bill 2027 A would extend the LOP sunset to January 2, 2020.

The Southwest Oregon Landowner Preference Pilot Program (Pilot Program) is set to sunset on June 30, 2014. The Pilot Program was enacted by the 2003 Legislative Assembly to address damage caused by elk on private lands in Jackson, Josephine, Coos, Curry, and Douglas counties by implementing less restrictive landowner preference rules for qualifying landowners in the pilot study area. House Bill 2027 A would extend this Pilot Program statewide through January 2, 2020.