

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 1 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Clem, Esquivel, Krieger, McKeown, Thompson, Unger, Whitsett, Witt
<b>Nays:</b>	Reardon
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Beth Patrino, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/16, 4/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Describes circumstances in which gray wolves may be taken. Authorizes person to take gray wolves at any time if taking is necessary to avoid imminent, grave physical injury to any person. Stipulates nothing in wildlife laws intended to prevent State Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) or State Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) lethally taking gray wolves to address chronic depredation of livestock, regardless of the management status of wolves under Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. Pursuant to rules adopted by Commission, person who owns or lawfully occupies land may take gray wolf without permit if (1) person has not used bait to attract gray wolves or taken other intentional act to attract wolves other than engaging in regular and ordinary livestock management practices, (2) taking is allowed under federal Endangered Species Act, and (3) gray wolves are caught in act of attacking livestock or working dogs or are caught in act of chasing livestock during time period in which ODFW has determined to take lethal action because of chronic wolf depredation and person has taken non-lethal actions as specified by ODFW. Authorizes person who is landowner or lawful occupant to authorize another person to enter onto land for purpose of taking gray wolves. Requires authorization to be in writing and to include specific information. If person takes gray wolves under Act, person must report taking to ODFW within 24 hours and make reasonable effort to preserve, and keep undisturbed, scene of taking. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Livestock predation by wolves
- Status of state and federal listings
- Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan

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

**BACKGROUND:** Gray wolves in Oregon are listed statewide as endangered under the Oregon Endangered Species Act (ESA). Wolves occurring west of Oregon Highway 395/78/95 are federally protected as endangered under the federal ESA. Oregon’s wolf population has continued to increase in distribution and abundance and, at the end of 2012, the minimum wolf population was 46 wolves in six packs.

In 2005, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan to “ensure the conservation of gray wolves as required by Oregon law while protecting the social and economic interests of all Oregonians.” The plan includes provisions for monitoring and managing populations, developing education and communication programs, and responding to wolf interactions with wildlife, humans, and livestock. House Bill 3452A establishes the circumstances under which a gray wolf may be taken.

4/18/2013 2:03:00 PM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*