

# House Bill 2251

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., for State Department of Fish and Wildlife)

## 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**.

Removes sunset on program that provides landowner preference tags to address damage caused by elk on privately owned land in southwest Oregon.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Southwest Oregon Landowner Preference Program; amending section 1, chapter 461,  
3 Oregon Laws 2003.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 1, chapter 461, Oregon Laws 2003, as amended by section 1, chapter 8,  
6 Oregon Laws 2007, and section 1, chapter 832, Oregon Laws 2009, is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the wildlife laws, the State Department of Fish  
8 and Wildlife shall create and implement a Southwest Oregon Landowner Preference [*Pilot*] Program  
9 [*during the period beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2014,*] that:

10 (1) Addresses damage caused by elk on privately owned lands in Jackson, Josephine, Coos,  
11 Curry and Douglas Counties.

12 (2) Provides landowner preference tags only for areas where elk are currently causing damage,  
13 where there has been a history of elk damage coupled with actions to alleviate elk damage or where  
14 the department has designated the area as an elk deemphasis area.

15 (3) Limits the use of tags to taking antlerless elk.

16 (4) Limits the use of tags to taking elk on property owned, leased or rented by the landowner  
17 complaining of elk damage or on property owned, leased or rented by a business entity that includes  
18 the landowner as a principal partner or shareholder.

19 (5) Allows exchange of unused general season elk tags or controlled hunt elk tags for landowner  
20 preference tags.

21 (6) Does not impose a limit on the number of total tags available for each property, except that  
22 no more than five tags may be valid at any one time on a particular property.

23 (7) Does not impose a minimum acreage requirement for landowner participation.

24 (8) Allows landowners to register for participation in the program at any time prior to the is-  
25 suance of tags.

26 (9) Establishes a \$30 fee for landowners to register for participation in the program.

27 (10) Establishes a \$15 fee for landowners to modify the landowner's tag distribution.

28 (11) Authorizes department biologists to sell and exchange tags.

29 (12) Authorizes department biologists to establish the period of validity for tags through nego-  
30 tiation with landowners.

31 (13) Requires landowners to record the number of elk taken and, within 10 days after the end

**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 of a designated hunt period, to report to the local department biologist the number of elk taken.

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