

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2624**

Ordered by the House April 19  
Including House Amendments dated April 19

Sponsored by Representatives CLEM, SPRENGER (at the request of Oregon Outdoor Council) (Pre-session filed.)

**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.

Provides that county is exempt from applicability of statute banning use of dogs to hunt or pursue [*black bears or*] cougars [*and use of bait to hunt black bears*] if voters approve county measure proposed by initiative petition or referred to people by governing body of county.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to county elections concerning methods of taking wildlife; and providing for criminal sen-  
3 tence reduction that requires approval by a two-thirds majority.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) A county is exempt from the applicability of the provisions of ORS 498.164**  
6 **related to cougars if a county measure is approved that exempts the county from the appli-**  
7 **cability of the provisions of ORS 498.164 related to cougars. The measure may be proposed**  
8 **by initiative petition, or referred to the people by the governing body of the county, at an**  
9 **election held on a date specified in ORS 203.085 (1).**

10 **(2) A county that is exempt from the applicability of the provisions of ORS 498.164 related**  
11 **to cougars pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall notify the State Department of**  
12 **Fish and Wildlife.**

13 **(3) The exemption of a county under this section does not affect the authority of the**  
14 **State Fish and Wildlife Commission to manage cougars in the county under any other pro-**  
15 **vision of the wildlife laws.**

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**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.