

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Monnes Anderson, Prozanski, Shields
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Baertschiger Jr, George
Prepared By:	Alex Britain, Law Clerk
Meeting Dates:	2/19, 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Makes reports and agreements created for the purpose of sage grouse habitat protection exempt from public disclosure when those reports and agreements are voluntarily submitted to Department of Agriculture, Department of Forestry, or a soil and water conservation district.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process of listing sage grouse as endangered species
- Benefits of voluntary stewardship agreements
- Importance of involving landowners in conservation efforts
- Privacy concerns of landowners

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Limits disclosure exemption to only those agreements dealing with greater sage grouse.

BACKGROUND: Unless exempted, public records used or retained by a public body are subject to public disclosure whenever a member of the public requests them. ORS 192.501 currently exempts certain public records from disclosure when the public or private interest in keeping those records confidential outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Many of the exemptions under this section focus on maintaining privacy when public records contain personally identifiable information.

HB 4093-B amends ORS 192.501 so that land management plans required for voluntary stewardship agreements entered into with either the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Forestry, as well as written voluntary agreements relating to the conservation of the greater sage grouse with a soil and water conservation district, are subject to a public disclosure exemption.