

**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session**  
**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

**MEASURE: SB 175**  
**CARRIER: Sen. Boquist**

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 03/04/15

**Action:** Do Pass.

**Meeting Dates:** 03/04

**Vote:**

Yeas: 4 - Burdick, Gelser, Kruse, Prozanski

Nays: 1 - Thatcher

**Prepared By:** Laura Handzel, Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Mandates minimum fine for certain wildlife offenses. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of Senate Bill 924 (2011)
- Diverse parties with varied interests involved in creating Senate Bill 924
- Bi-partisan support for Senate Bill 924
- Sunset placed in Senate Bill 924 to create trial period
- Success of Senate Bill 924
- Ongoing and serious problem of poaching in Oregon
- Courts hesitation to impose fines in wildlife crime cases
- Need to educate judges and prosecutors
- Specific issues affecting raptors and large sturgeon
- Direct and indirect value of fish and wildlife

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 924 during the 2011 regular session. Senate Bill 924 mandated that offenders receive certain minimal penalties when they are convicted of certain wildlife crimes. That bill, however, contained a sunset clause, which took effect in January 2015.

Senate Bill 175 reinstates Senate Bill 924 without a sunset clause.