

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 06/23/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 06/23

Vote:

Senate

Yeas: 12 - Burdick, Devlin, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

House

Yeas: 10 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Whisnant, Whitsett, Williamson

Exc: 2 - McLane, Smith

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Task Force on State Department of Fish and Wildlife Funding (Task Force). Requires Task Force to identify and recommend alternative funding sources and opportunities for Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Requires Task Force to report to Legislative Assembly within 30 days after final meeting or when Senate President or Speaker of the House designate. Sunsets Task Force on December 31, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effect of the amendment
- Need for more alternative revenues

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) receives funding from several sources. In the 2013-15 biennium, a third of ODFW's revenue came from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Another third came from the federal government – much of it tied to the sale of hunting and fishing equipment. The rest of the department funding came from a variety of sources. Most of that funding could be used only for specific purposes spelled out in grants, contracts or statute. Roughly six percent of ODFW's revenue came from Oregon's general tax dollars and the lottery combined.

House Bill 2402 establishes a Task Force to identify and recommend alternative funding strategies and opportunities to leverage existing funds for ODFW.