

# House Joint Resolution 30

Sponsored by Representative WEIDNER; Representatives ESQUIVEL, HAYDEN, KRIEGER, NEARMAN, STARK, WHISNANT

## 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**.

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to preserve individuals' rights to hunt or fish, including through use of traditional methods. Delineates scope of rights to hunt and fish.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas hunting, fishing and harvesting wildlife are deeply embedded in Oregon's heritage and culture; and

Whereas hunting and fishing constitute a major economic engine for Oregon by generating \$929 million in spending each year and generating \$99 million in state and local tax revenues each year; and

Whereas hunting and fishing provide hundreds of thousands of Oregonians with healthy and sustainable sources of food; and

Whereas hunters and anglers have strong support locally and across the nation for pursuing hunter and angler sports and pastimes, with recent surveys indicating 82 percent public support for legal, regulated hunting; and

Whereas 18 other states have amended their state constitutions to protect an individual's right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife; now, therefore,

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

**PARAGRAPH 1.** The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section 47 to be added to and made a part of Article I, such section to read:

**SECTION 47. The rights to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, including by the use of the traditional methods, are a valued part of the heritage of the State of Oregon and shall forever be preserved for the people through the laws and rules that preserve the future of hunting and fishing. Public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of managing wildlife. This section may not be construed to modify any provision of law relating to trespass, property rights, the regulation of commercial activity, or the rights to divert, appropriate or use water, or establish any minimum amount of water in any body of water, or in any respect diminish any other private right.**

**PARAGRAPH 2.** The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout this state.

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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.