

HB 2576 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies exemption to prohibition on trade of protected species of wildlife to bona fide scientific or educational institution for scientific or educational purposes includes distribution, sale or transfer of legal ownership of covered animal species. Identifies covered animal species listed by common name are also listed by species name in Appendix I or Appendix II of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

In November 2016, Oregon voters passed Ballot Measure 100, which prohibits the purchase, sale, or possession with intent to sell of parts or products from elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle, shark, or ray, subject to civil penalties. The measure created exceptions to the prohibition, including law enforcement activities; activities authorized by federal law; certain antiques over 100 years old; certain musical instruments; noncommercial transfers through estates, trusts, gifts; and possession by tribal members. An exception was also made for donations for scientific or educational purposes.

House Bill 2576 would clarify that the covered animal species referenced in Ballot Measure 100 by their common names are those listed by species name in Appendix I or Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, an international agreement among governments, including the United States, to restrict the trade of certain species. The bill would also clarify that the exception for scientific or educational purposes extends to "distribution, sale or transfer of legal ownership" of a covered animal species for such use, not only donations.