



## **HB 3040 Limited Cost Hunting and Fishing Licenses**

Testimony for House Ag and Natural Resources – Jody Wiser – 3.14.2017

One can easily understand the impulse for this bill, after all, those benefitted would have paid Oregon income taxes for either a full year, or a partial year.

However, there is no simple way Fish and Wildlife could easily verify that the applicants are Oregon taxpayers. Were income taxes public information, then it would be simple. However, the DOR has difficulty disclosing income tax information because of their contracts with the IRS, and we are just now, in other committees working on creating sharing between agencies to the extent possible for the Department of Revenue, without their staff being charged with a felony.

Out of state applicants would have trouble providing proof, as in all likelihood, even if they have Oregon drivers' licenses, because that provides no proof of paying income taxes. Without easy proof, anyone could make the claim, and snag the reduced fees.

This just may be too difficult to be worth the change. And we wonder, do Idaho, California and Washington have similar reciprocal benefits? Their fees, while different for each animal, do seem to be comparable or Oregon's.