

HB 2883 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 3/2, 4/11, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs court to order Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits of outfitter or guide registered with Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) upon conviction of violation of wildlife laws when violation involves taking of wildlife with culpable mental state. Specifies such outfitter or guide is prohibited from applying for or obtaining same license, tag or permit in the future. Deems such outfitter or guide permanently ineligible to register as outfitter or guide with OSMB if certificate of registration has been revoked pursuant to court order for violation of wildlife law involving unlawful taking or killing of wildlife with culpable mental state. Applies to violations of agency requirements permitted on or after effective date of Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Overview of poaching in Oregon
- Licensing and certification of outfitters and guides
- Roles of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon State Marine Board

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces measure. Authorizes court to order Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits issued to person who is convicted of violation of wildlife laws involving taking or killing of wildlife with culpable mental state if that person was outfitter or guide subject to registration with Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB). Prohibits person from applying for another such license, tag or permit. Increases length of time OSMB may suspend outfitter and guide registration from 24 to 60 months for specific reasons. Authorizes OSMB to deny outfitter and guide registration for any period of time if applicant has conviction of wildlife violation involving unlawful taking or killing of wildlife with culpable mental state. Applies to violations committed on or after effective date of Act.

BACKGROUND:

In the state of Oregon, there are currently over 1,400 outfitters and guides. Outfitting and guiding services include: boating, angling, hunting, jeep touring, backpacking, alpine mountain climbing, camping, trips utilizing pack animals, dog sled trips, whitewater float, rafting, drift boat, kayak and canoe trips. The Oregon State Marine Board registers outfitters and guides annually, requiring details such as qualifications and experience, liability insurance, and certification to give first aid. The registration process also includes an affidavit stating that the outfitter or guide and their staff have not been convicted of certain crimes.

House Bill 2883 would authorize revocation of an outfitter or guide's licenses, tags and permits if they are convicted of violating wildlife laws in an offense that involves taking wildlife with a culpable mental state. The bill would deem such an outfitter or guide permanently ineligible to register with the Oregon State Marine Board.