HB 2030 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/8, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes requirement that the number of non-resident, annual tags issued for black bear for the general hunting season must be less than three percent of all tags issued the previous year. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Minimal fiscal impact, no revenue impact

House Vote: Passed. Ayes, 39; Nays, 16--Alonso Leon, Barnhart, Evans, Gomberg, Gorsek, Greenlick, Hernandez, Holvey, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Marsh, Meek, Nosse, Rayfield, Sanchez, Williamson; Excused, 4--Boone, Lininger, McKeown, Piluso; Excused for Business of the House, 1--Smith G

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Bear population stable or growing
- Current three percent limit has only been reached one time in one zone
- Reducing complexity of hunting regulations

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, there are controlled hunts for black bears during spring (early or mid-April to late May) and a general hunting season during fall (August to November in eastern Oregon and August to December in western Oregon). The Oregon Black Bear Management Plan requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to monitor bear mortalities to ensure sustainable harvest. Recent data indicate that the current bear populations across the state are stable or growing.

House Bill 2030A would remove the requirement that the number of non-resident, general season tags issued by drawing for black bear must be less than three percent of all black bear tags issued the previous year for hunting in a particular area.