

HB 2525 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies that charitable organization may serve donated game meat if inspected and determined fit for human consumption by authorized organizations trained by Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and if game meat has been processed by ODA-approved establishment. Adds animal food processing establishment to list of authorized organizations, subject to requirements. Defines "fit for human consumption" as game meat from animal killed by weapon and free from visible disease or parasite lesions. Defines "game meat" as edible portion of wildlife species for which Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife prescribes angling, hunting, or trapping season by rule. Adds exemption from liability for employees of authorized animal food processing establishment approved by ODA.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Currently, ORS 619.095 specifies that game meat may be served for human consumption by charitable organizations if first inspected by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) or by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) or State Police that have been trained by ODA. The definition of game meat is limited to antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose and mountain goat.

House Bill 2525 would expand authorization for inspection of game meat to include animal processing establishments approved and trained by ODA. The bill would expand the current definition of "game meat" to include all game animals and fish that have a hunting season as determined by ODFW.