

HB 2525 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Carrier: Rep. Buehler

Action Date: 03/14/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Clem, Esquivel, McKeown, McLain, Power, Smith DB, Sprenger, Witt

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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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. Authorizes employee of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, employee of Oregon State Police or any person licensed to process meat by ODA under ORS 603.025 (4)(b) or (d) and subject to federal meat inspection to inspect game meat and determine fit for human consumption. 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:

- Food insecurity in Oregon
- Inspection and processing requirements for donated game meat

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Clarifies that game meat donated to a charitable organization may be inspected and determined fit for human consumption by any person operating a nonslaughtering processing establishment or custom slaughtering or custom processing establishment licensed by Oregon Department of Agriculture under ORS 603.025 (4)(b) or (d) and subject to federal meat inspection.

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 2525A 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. Game meat may be donated to charitable organizations if inspected and determined fit for human consumption by an employee of ODFW, an employee of the State Police, or any person licensed to process meat by ODA under ORS 603.025 (4)(b) or (d) and subject to federal meat inspection, if that person is trained by ODA.