

HB 2883 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Baertschiger Jr

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Action Date: 05/24/17

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Baertschiger Jr, Dembrow, Prozanski, Roblan

Exc: 1 - Olsen

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes court to order Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits issued to person who is convicted of a violation of wildlife laws involving taking or killing of wildlife with culpable mental state if that person was an outfitter or guide subject to registration with Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB). Prohibits person from applying for or obtaining another such license, tag or permit after such revocation. 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.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of outfitter or guide wildlife law violations
- Importance of maintaining high standards in outfitter/guide profession
- Current penalties

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 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 (OSMB) 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 2883A would authorize a court to order the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits issued to a state-registered outfitter or guide who is convicted of a violation of wildlife laws that involves the taking or killing of wildlife with a culpable mental state. The measure prohibits the person from applying for another such license, tag or permit. House Bill 2883A would also increase the length of time that OSMB may suspend an outfitter and guide registration from 24 to 60 months for specific reasons and authorizes OSMB to deny a registration for any period of time if the applicant has a conviction of a wildlife violation involving unlawful taking or killing of wildlife with a culpable mental state. Provisions of the measure would apply to violations committed on or after the effective date of this 2017 Act.