SB 1550 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Action Date: 02/22/18

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 9-0-0-0

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

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the State Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to adopt record keeping requirements for persons who engage in food fish for commercial purposes, including taking, landing, buying, or selling. Specifies required records may include information sufficient to show the source and disposition of food fish and any other information the Commission deems necessary to trace the chain of possession of food fish. Prohibits Commission from applying record keeping requirements to tribal members exercising the treaty reserved rights of an Indian tribe. Requires person who must keep records under this section to make records available for inspection by the Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the Department of Agriculture (ODA). Authorizes ODA to request copies of, or information from, records for purposes of programs under ORS Chapter 616 or other food safety laws. Authorizes ODA to enter premises where records are kept during normal business hours. Authorizes persons to keep records in electronic form and to satisfy request for inspection of records by supplying a copy of the records in electronic form. Allows the Commission and ODA to inspect records not kept in electronic form during normal business hours.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Domoic acid impacts on public health and the commercial crab industry
- Food fish traceability may allow more targeted geographic closures during biotoxin events
- Oregon Department of Agriculture authority to inspect food fish records for public health protection
- Consumer confidence in safety of seafood purchase and consumption
- Measure drafted broadly to allow addressing biotoxin accumulation in other food fish species

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. A seven-member Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) that is appointed by the Governor oversees ODFW and state fish and wildlife programs and policies under the provisions of ORS Chapters 496 - 513. The Commission establishes seasons, methods, and bag limits for recreational and commercial take of fish and wildlife.

Under ORS 506.011(5) "food fish" are defined to include any animal over which the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission has jurisdiction under ORS 506.036. The Oregon commercial fishing laws (found in ORS chapters 506, 507, 508, 509, 511, and 513) allow commercial fishers to deliver their catch to a wholesale fish dealer, a wholesale bait dealer, or to sell it off their vessel under a limited fish sellers permit.

Senate Bill 1550 A would authorize the Commission to adopt record keeping requirements on persons who engage in commercial fisheries in order to trace the chain of possession of food fish.

Carrier: Rep. Smith DB