

SB 593 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Meeting Dates: 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows individuals issued a resident disabled veteran hunting license to receive additional preference points in Oregon's controlled hunt permit system.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Not requiring individuals who are eligible for both a pioneer combination license and a disabled veteran hunting license, to choose one or the other
- Not doubling-up or stacking preference points for individuals who qualify for both types of licenses
- Ensuring Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can capture available federal matching funds

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife issues tags for general hunting seasons as well as for limited-entry, controlled hunts. Most big game hunting in Oregon is limited-entry. Controlled hunts are organized by location and species, and hunters must apply in advance for an opportunity to participate in a random drawing to receive tags. The system is designed to increase unsuccessful applicants' chances of receiving a deer or elk tag over time, by giving preference points every year they don't receive a tag. Current law also allows for additional preference points to be given to individuals issued a resident annual pioneer combination hunting and angling license (for persons at least 65 who have lived in Oregon at least 50 years).

Senate Bill 593 adds individuals issued a resident disabled veteran hunting license to those who are eligible to receive additional preference points for controlled hunts.