

SB 593 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to consider giving persons who have been issued a resident disabled veteran hunting license additional preference points in Oregon's controlled hunt permit system.

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 30.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

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 years old who have lived in Oregon at least 50 years). Resident disabled veteran hunting licenses are given to those who provide written proof of record by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the Armed Forces that shows the person to be at least 25 percent disabled (ORS 497.102).

Senate Bill 593 would require the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to consider giving persons who have been issued a resident disabled veteran hunting license additional preference points in Oregon's controlled hunt permit system.