

SB 1025 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 6/13, 6/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to produce survey of bay clam populations in priority areas within Tillamook Bay by December 31, 2021. Directs department to establish Tillamook Bay Clam Advisory Committee, comprised of a balance of persons who take bay clams for commercial purposes, take clams for noncommercial purposes, are members of a group that advocates conservation, or otherwise have an interest in bay clams. Requires committee to make specified recommendations to department, including recommendations ensuring the sustainability of the clam population and balancing commercial and noncommercial taking of clams. Requires department to submit report to legislative committee on or before December 31, 2022.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Molluscan shellfish, including oysters and clams, have played an important role in the history and culture of the Oregon coast. They also represent a critical component of Oregon’s marine ecosystem and provide important commercial, recreational, and ecological benefits and services to Oregonians. Commercial clambers generate about \$507,500 annually from the harvest of bay clams and razor clams from Oregon waters.