

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2070 - A

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Authorizes State Department of Fish and Wildlife to accept payment for products and services by credit card.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

The measure allows the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to collect a convenience fee associated with customer license and tag purchases by credit card; the specific fee amount will be set by rule. Furthermore, a cap would be placed on a fee charged for a duplicate license that has been lost, stolen or destroyed; the specific fee amount, currently set at \$25, will be set by rule and may not exceed the lesser of the cost or the fee amount charged for the original license. The requirement that licenses or tags be issued through the mail is amended to permit either mailed or online licenses and tags.

ODFW estimates that convenience fees, charged to offset the impact of financial institution fees related to credit card transactions, will not exceed more than \$100,000 per biennium. ODFW has not yet determined how the convenience fee expenses will be paid. If the revenues travel directly from the customer to the credit card processing company, thus bypassing state accounting and budget tracking, no additional revenue or expense adjustments will be necessary in the agency budget. If the convenience fee revenues do not go directly to the credit card company, then the agency will record the fees charged to licensees as revenue and the resulting credit card charges as expenses. If the latter occurs, ODFW believes that existing expenditure limitation in the agency budget will be sufficient to cover the associated costs.

Eliminating the \$25 fee for duplicate licenses is anticipated to result in some form of revenue loss as ODFW collected \$295,369 Other Funds revenue from these fees in 2018. While the legislation will permit ODFW to set a new fee amount by rule, the agency hopes that the majority of customers will opt to print their own copy of their license through the new online licensing system for no additional cost. Total revenue losses are indeterminate but are not anticipated to exceed \$600,000 Other Funds per biennium.

Not requiring licenses and tags to be mailed, as licensees will be able to use electronic means (i.e. phone) or print their own paper copies from online, will save ODFW in staff-time, printing costs, and postage. The amount of savings is indeterminate at this time, as it is unknown how many customers will opt for electronic means rather than mailed delivery.