

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2378

Ordered by the House April 12
Including House Amendments dated April 12

Sponsored by Representative SMITH DB (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish and operate fish incubation box **pilot** program for *[rearing]* **hatching** of salmonids on *[suitable waterways in coastal areas of southern Oregon]* **historically salmon-bearing waterways located in certain counties. Requires department to operate pilot program for 10-year period. Requires department to work with certain groups in conducting of pilot program. Establishes minimum number of eggs to be used at each location where pilot program operates.** Requires department to report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020, regarding establishment and operation of **pilot** program.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for **pilot** program purposes.
Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to incubation boxes for salmonids; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas salmonids are unable in many instances to access historic spawning areas due to the
4 withdrawal of waters for irrigation, barriers to migration and weather patterns; and

5 Whereas the inability of salmonids to access historic spawning areas results in declines in
6 salmonid populations, leads to economic harm to recreational fisheries and local economies and
7 contributes to a reduction in biodiversity; and

8 Whereas the Oregon Hatchery Research Center deems salmonid progeny from incubation boxes
9 to be wild, naturally produced salmonids due to the eggs having been hatched instream in gravel;
10 now, therefore,

11 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

12 **SECTION 1.** (1) **The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall carry out a fish incu-**
13 **bation box pilot program for the hatching of salmonids on historically salmon-bearing**
14 **waterways located in the counties of Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine. The de-**
15 **partment shall conduct the pilot program for a period of 10 years.**

16 **(2) The department shall work with the Oregon Hatchery Research Center, local salmon**
17 **and trout enhancement program volunteer groups and others to produce the most effective**
18 **pilot program practicable. The department shall use the eggs of at least six salmonid females,**
19 **or at least 18,000 eyed eggs, at each location operated under the pilot program.**

20 **SECTION 2.** **The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall report on the establishment**
21 **and operation of the fish incubation box pilot program required under section 1 of this 2019**
22 **Act, including but not limited to any findings or recommendations of the department re-**
23 **garding the pilot program, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly relating to**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 natural resources in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 no later than September 15, 2020.

2 **SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
3 ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019,
4 out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which may be expended for establishing and
5 operating the fish incubation box pilot program required under section 1 of this 2019 Act.

6 **SECTION 4.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
7 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
8 July 1, 2019.

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