

HB 4052 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Witt, Rep. Sprenger

House Committee On Natural Resources

Action Date: 02/06/20

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Barreto, Gorsek, Lively, Reardon, Smith DB, Sprenger, Witt

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Amends residency requirements for wildlife license, tag, and permit applications. Defines “resident” as a person who has physically resided in Oregon for no less than six consecutive months immediately prior to application submission. Removes the provision precluding consideration of temporary absence from the state in residency determinations. Specifies that a resident does not include a person who merely owns property or pays property taxes in the state or who claims resident privileges in another state or country for any purpose.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recent legislative efforts on poaching and wildlife regulations
- Ambiguity regarding temporary absence definition
- Poaching prosecution challenges related to residency
- Relationship between residency and hunter identification number

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife offers hunting licenses, tags, and permits to both Oregon residents and nonresidents. The price of resident hunting licenses, tags, and permits is typically less than the equivalent for a nonresident. For example, in 2019, the cost of a resident annual hunting license was \$33.50, while a nonresident annual hunting license cost \$167.

Currently, residency related to wildlife licenses, tags, and permits requires that a person reside in the state for at least six consecutive months prior to the date of application, and allows for a person to be temporarily absent from the state for six months.

House Bill 4052 would change the definition of "resident" for purposes of making application for wildlife hunting licenses, tags, and permits.