

HB 4052 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Riley

Senate Committee On General Government and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 02/19/20

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Boquist, Girod, Golden, Monnes Anderson, Riley

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Refines definition of "resident" for purposes of statutes governing wildlife licenses, tags, and permits: requires physical presence in the state; allows temporary absences from the state to be considered when residency determinations are made; and excludes persons who merely own real property, who merely pay property taxes, or who claim residency elsewhere.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to clarify confusion around temporary absences and competing claims of residency
- Difficulties with enforcement and prosecution

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) issues hunting licenses, tags, and permits, and like most states, typically offers the lowest prices to state residents. For example, in 2019, the cost of an annual hunting license for an Oregon resident was \$33.50, while a nonresident annual hunting license cost \$167.

The definition of "resident" that currently applies, requires applicants to have "resided in the state for at least six consecutive months" prior to applying, and only allows ODFW to consider an applicant's temporary absence from the state if it was to establish residency elsewhere.

House Bill 4052 changes the definition of resident to allow ODFW to consider any temporary absence when making residency determinations; requires applicants to be *physically* present in the state for at least six months prior to applying; and excludes those who merely own property or pay property taxes, or claim residency elsewhere.