

HB 2728 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/9, 2/11, 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits coyote contests, competitions, tournaments, or derbies for cash or prizes. Requires the hunter to forfeit the remains of a coyote killed during a prohibited event to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Punishes as a Class A violation. Allows a raffle conducted by a nonprofit organization to occur if the raffle does not award prizes based on the number, weight, or size of the coyotes taken.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces measure. Authorizes a county to adopt an ordinance that prohibits or limits a person from conducting or participating in a contest, competition, tournament or derby in the county that has the objective of taking coyotes for cash or prizes. Specifies that a person that violates the ordinance and injures, kills or receives the remains of a coyote must forfeit the remains to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). States that the remains become the property of ODFW.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) estimates that there are 300,000 coyotes in Oregon. Coyotes are not a protected species and the hunting of coyotes is not regulated by ODFW. Coyotes are statutorily defined as predatory animals and can be killed on an owner's land without a hunting permit and on public land with a permit. There is currently no limit on the number of coyotes that can be killed by a single individual or during a single hunting contest or event.

House Bill 2728 would prohibit coyote contests, competitions, tournaments, or derbies for cash or prizes, require a person in violation to forfeit the remains to ODFW, and punish as a Class A violation. The measure would exempt raffles conducted by non-profit organization if the prizes are not based on the number, weight, or size of coyotes taken.