

## HB 3204 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On General Government

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**Action Date:** 04/06/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.  
(Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Leif, Lively, Valderrama, Wilde, Zika

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Caine Francis, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/16, 4/6

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon State Police, and Oregon Department of Agriculture, to provide a report no later than December 31, 2022 to the Legislative Assembly on the state's framework for preventing and responding to zoonotic diseases. Requires report to include response protocols, enforcement practices, and evaluation of whether a more comprehensive framework is required. Requires report also include jurisdictional responsibility by state agencies, opportunities for increased collaboration, and funding or other resources necessary to improve the state's framework for responding to zoonotic diseases. Directs Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to maintain list of wildlife that may not be imported, possessed, sold, purchased, exchanged, or transported in the state. Requires list of prohibited wildlife include species identified by the commission as a significant risk to public health, or highly susceptible to infection, pathogen replication and transmission of zoonotic disease, and capable of causing widespread infectious disease in human populations. Authorizes the commission to adopt rules and file suit for civil damages for violations. Prohibits sale of wildlife not native to the state sold alive for the purpose of human consumption; exempts livestock and food fish. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure
- Animals not sold for human consumption
- Exemptions for livestock

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

Zoonotic diseases are diseases that can be shared between animals and people, including rabies, salmonella, and West Nile virus. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of February 2021 the exact source of the current outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is unknown, however it is known that it originally came from an animal. The CDC indicates there is no evidence to suggest SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is spreading in free-living wildlife in the United States, or that wildlife might be a source of infection for people. Additionally, while there is no evidence that a person can get COVID-19 by preparing or eating food, including wild hunted game meat in the United States, the CDC states that hunters can get infected with many diseases when processing or eating game.

Statute defines wildlife policy for the state to manage wildlife, prevent serious depletion of any indigenous species, and provide the optimum recreational and aesthetic benefits for present and future generations of the citizens of this state. By ORS 496, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and Oregon Department of Fish and

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Wildlife (ODFW) are responsible for implementing this wildlife policy and for the administration of wildlife laws, including provisions for threatened and endangered species, hunting and fishing regulations, enforcement of wildlife laws, and penalties for violations. This includes issuing licenses for hunting and fishing in the state at identified locations and times of year.

House Bill 3204 A directs the ODFW, in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon State Police, and Oregon Department of Agriculture, to provide a report no later than December 31, 2022 to the Legislative Assembly on the state's framework for preventing and responding to zoonotic diseases. The measure requires the report to include response protocols, enforcement practices, an evaluation of whether a more comprehensive framework is required, jurisdictional responsibility by state agencies, opportunities for increased collaboration, and funding or other resources necessary to improve the state's framework for responding to zoonotic diseases. The measure also directs the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to maintain a list of wildlife that may not be imported, possessed, sold, purchased, exchanged, or transported in the state and requires this list to include species identified by the commission as a significant risk to public health, or highly susceptible to infection, pathogen replication and transmission of zoonotic disease and capable of causing widespread infectious disease in human populations. Finally, the measure authorizes the commission to adopt rules and file suit for civil damages for violations and prohibits the sale of wildlife not native to the state sold alive for the purpose of human consumption, while exempting livestock and food fish.