



Oregon

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**To: The Honorable Jeff Golden, Chair
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery**



House Bill 3163

**Kevin Blakely, Wildlife Deputy Division Administrator
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

The department appreciates the opportunity to discuss House Bill 3163 with you today, and has no position on the bill. HB 3163 would amend ORS 497.002 for purposes of purchasing licenses, tags and permits issued by the department. HB 3163 clarifies the definition of a "resident" as a person who has physically resided in Oregon for no less than six consecutive months immediately prior to applying for or purchasing licenses, tags, or permits. The bill further states that a resident does not include 1) a person who merely owns property or pays property taxes in the state, or 2) a person who claims resident privileges in another state or country for any purpose (no dual residency). HB 3163 removes the exception for individuals temporarily living out of state for purposes other than establishing residency in another state. These changes will hopefully make verifying residency by Oregon State Police a simpler process and prosecution of individuals in violation of residency requirements easier for Oregon courts.

There is a potential for minor changes to license revenue. People currently claiming residency status for owning property or paying property taxes would be required to purchase nonresident licenses; and, as a result may choose to not pursue fishing and hunting activities because of the price differences. However, any person who chooses to switch from a resident to a nonresident license will contribute to a revenue increase. In total, these impacts are expected to be minimal, and will not change current revenue projections.

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