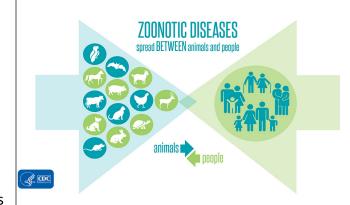


HB 4128 - Preventing Zoonotic Disease Oregon Must Act Now to Avert Future Pandemics

The Problem

- Many of the worst epidemics and pandemics in recent decades, including COVID-19, Ebola virus, avian influenza and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, were zoonotic in nature, which means they can spread from animals to humans.
- Zoonotic diseases, like the COVID-19 pandemic, are on the rise due to human encroachment into new ecosystems, loss and conversion of habitat, climate change, and wildlife exploitation – including trade and trafficking.
- The United States is one of the world's top importers of wildlife, consuming an estimated 20 percent of the global wildlife market. Each year, the United States imports around 225 million live animals and 883 million specimens.
- Live animal markets bring together wildlife, domestic animals and humans that wouldn't otherwise come into contact, which allows disease to spread between species and spill over to humans.
- Novel zoonotic pathogens pose serious threats to our public health, biological diversity and economic stability.
- The costs of wildlife diseases to public health are enormous, and tend to fall disproportionately on BIPOC communities, stemming from poor health care access and structural discrimination.

75% of new or emerging infectious diseases originate in nonhuman animals.



HB 4128 will equip Oregon with practical tools to prevent and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks linked to the import, trade and handling of wildlife.

- Prevent zoonotic transmission of disease by strengthening state agency coordination and improving prevention, monitoring and response plans.
- Avert future public health outbreaks and economic disruptions by reducing avenues for zoonotic disease transmission associated with import, trade and handling of wildlife.

Key Points of LC 244

- The Legislative Policy and Research Office, in consultation with OHA, OSP, ODA and ODFW, shall prepare a
 report that evaluates Oregon's current framework for monitoring, preventing and responding to zoonotic
 diseases and recommends ways to strengthen the framework.
- ODFW shall review and update the list of prohibited species as the commission deems necessary to protect
 against significant risks to public health from zoonotic disease. ODFW shall also update the list of prohibited
 species upon notification from OHA that a wildlife species poses a significant risk to public health from
 zoonotic disease.
- Wildlife may not be held and sold live for the purpose of human consumption except for those animals utilized for farm use under state law.
- ODFW is directed to consider public health and the risk of zoonotic disease when adopting rules related to the holding and capture of wildlife.

Embracing a One Health Approach

- At the Federal level, the bipartisan Preventing
 Future Pandemics Act aims to shut down
 commercial wildlife markets, end the trade in live
 wildlife for human consumption and stop the
 associated wildlife trade.
- Several states are advancing legislation to address the threat of zoonotic disease, including California (S.B. 376), New York (A.2054), New Jersey (S.347), and New Hampshire (S.B. 146).
- Oregon must work with our neighbors in Washington and California to create a West Coast bulwark against the spread of zoonotic disease.
- If California implements its proposed restrictions on activities at high risk of spreading zoonotic disease, it is very likely those activities will simply shift to Oregon.



Preventing and responding to health issues – like the spread of zoonotic disease -- at the human-animal-environment interface requires a collaborative, multisectoral, and interdisciplinary approach at all levels of government.

Human Coronaviruses

Virus name - date of first discovery, most common disease manifestation, suspected source

