

House Bill 2242

Sponsored by Representatives SMITH DB, OSBORNE (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Oregon Wildlife Council. Directs council to develop and establish public education and media program to promote importance of hunting and fishing. Directs council to contract with marketing or advertising firm to develop and implement program.

Directs State Department of Fish and Wildlife to impose \$1 surcharge on each hunting, angling or shellfish license issued by department, except for free licenses. Directs department to provide opportunity for license applicants to make donation to Oregon Wildlife Council Fund.

Establishes Oregon Wildlife Council Fund.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to wildlife.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 5 ESTABLISHING THE OREGON WILDLIFE COUNCIL

6
7 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 4 of this 2023 Act are added to and made a part ORS chapter**
8 **496.**

9 **SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Wildlife Council is established within the State Department**
10 **of Fish and Wildlife.**

11 **(2)(a) The council consists of nine members. One member shall be the State Fish and**
12 **Wildlife Director or the director's designee. Eight members shall be appointed by the director**
13 **as follows:**

14 **(A) Two individuals who have regularly purchased a hunting license in this state and have**
15 **purchased at least three licenses in the last five years.**

16 **(B) Two individuals who have regularly purchased a fishing license in this state and have**
17 **purchased at least three licenses in the last five years.**

18 **(C) One individual who represents businesses in this state that are substantially impacted**
19 **by hunting and fishing.**

20 **(D) One individual representing agricultural producers in this state.**

21 **(E) One individual with a media or marketing background who is not an employee of the**
22 **department.**

23 **(F) One individual representing rural areas of this state whose economies are substan-**
24 **tially impacted by hunting and fishing.**

25 **(b) Members described in paragraphs (a)(A) to (F) of this subsection:**

26 **(A) Shall be residents of this state and be appointed, as far as is practicable, from all**
27 **major geographic areas of this state.**

28 **(B) Serve for a term of four years and may be reappointed for one subsequent term.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (C) May be removed for cause by the director.

2 (3) The council shall:

3 (a) In consultation with the firm described in paragraph (b) of this subsection, create a
4 plan to develop and establish a public education and media program to inform the public that
5 hunting and fishing are:

6 (A) Necessary for the conservation, preservation and management of this state's natural
7 resources;

8 (B) A valued and integral part of the cultural heritage of this state, which should forever
9 be preserved; and

10 (C) An important part of this state's economy.

11 (b) Contract with a marketing or advertising firm to develop and implement the plan
12 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection. Determinations by the firm regarding the
13 content of the public education and media program, audiences to be targeted and the means
14 of reaching targeted audiences shall be subject to the approval of the council.

15 (c) Update the plan described in paragraph (a) of this subsection annually, but no later
16 than April 30 of each calendar year.

17 (4) A majority of the members of the council constitutes a quorum for the transaction
18 of business.

19 (5) Official action by the council requires the approval of a majority of the members of
20 the council.

21 (6) The director, or the director's designee, shall be the chairperson of the council.

22 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the director shall make an appointment to become
23 immediately effective.

24 (8) The council shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or
25 of a majority of the members of the council, but no less frequently than once per calendar
26 quarter.

27 (9) All meetings of the council shall be held in compliance with the provisions of ORS
28 192.610 to 192.690.

29 (10) The council may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the council.

30 (11) The council may select members of the council to serve as officers and prescribe the
31 duties and powers that the council considers necessary for the performance of those officers.

32 (12) The council shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may
33 include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative As-
34 sembly related to natural resources no later than September 15 of each even-numbered year.

35 (13) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation but may be reimbursed for
36 actual and necessary travel or other expenses incurred by them in performance of their of-
37 ficial duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses
38 shall be paid out of the Oregon Wildlife Council Fund established under section 3 of this 2023
39 Act.

40 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
41 the council in the performance of the duties of the council and, to the extent permitted by
42 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the council
43 consider necessary to perform their duties.

44 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Oregon Wildlife Council Fund is established in the State Treasury,
45 separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Wildlife Council

1 Fund shall be credited to the fund. The fund consists of moneys deposited in the fund under
2 section 4 of this 2023 Act and moneys appropriated or transferred to the fund by the Legis-
3 lative Assembly.

4 (2) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Wildlife Council to
5 be used for:

6 (a) Implementing a public education and media program pursuant to the plan developed
7 under section 2 of this 2023 Act.

8 (b) Providing reimbursement to members of the council as provided in section 2 of this
9 2023 Act.

10 (c) Paying the administrative expenses of the council, except that no more than five
11 percent of the moneys deposited in the fund per biennium may be used for administrative
12 expenses.

13 **SECTION 4.** (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall impose a surcharge of
14 \$1 on each hunting, angling or shellfish license issued by the department, except for a license
15 provided to the applicant for free.

16 (2) The department shall provide an opportunity to an applicant at the time of purchase
17 of a hunting, angling or shellfish license to make a voluntary donation to the Oregon Wildlife
18 Council Fund established under section 3 of this 2023 Act.

19 (3) Moneys collected under this section shall be deposited in the Oregon Wildlife Council
20 Fund established under section 3 of this 2023 Act.

21
22 **TEMPORARY PROVISIONS**
23

24 **SECTION 5.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified by section 2 of this 2023 Act,
25 of the initial members of the Oregon Wildlife Council described in section 2 (a)(A) to (F) of
26 this 2023 Act:

27 (1) Two shall serve for a term of one year.

28 (2) Two shall serve for a term of two years.

29 (3) Two shall serve for a term of three years.

30 (4) Two shall serve for a term of four years.

31 **SECTION 6.** The Oregon Wildlife Council shall first develop the public education and
32 media program plan described in section 2 of this 2023 Act no later than 120 days after the
33 first meeting of the council.

34
35 **CAPTIONS**
36

37 **SECTION 7.** The unit captions used in this 2023 Act are provided only for the convenience
38 of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any leg-
39 islative intent in the enactment of this 2023 Act.
40