

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3052

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representatives EVANS, LEVY B, OWENS

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.

[Requires Department of State Lands to study natural resources in Oregon. Directs department to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2024.]

Establishes Task Force on Elk and Deer Damage Compensation Funding.
Sunsets task force on January 2, 2025.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to natural resources; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Elk and Deer Damage Compensation Funding is established. The task force consists of 15 voting members and two nonvoting members.

(2)(a) Of the voting members, 13 members shall be appointed by the Director of Agriculture from among individuals nominated as follows:

(A) One voting member from each of the following eight counties that are affected by elk and deer damage, nominated by the respective boards of county commissioners of the counties:

(i) Baker County.

(ii) Deschutes County.

(iii) Grant County.

(iv) Harney County.

(v) Morrow County.

(vi) Umatilla County.

(vii) Union County.

(viii) Wallowa County.

(B) One voting member who represents private crop insurance, nominated by the Eastern Oregon Counties Association.

(C) One voting member who represents the Enterprise office of the Oregon State University Extension Service, nominated by the Eastern Oregon Counties Association.

(D) One voting member who represents the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, nominated by the Board of Trustees of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

(E) One voting member who represents the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, nominated

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 by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

2 (F) One voting member who represents the Oregon Hunters Association, nominated by
3 the Oregon Hunters Association.

4 (b) The Director of Agriculture shall appoint one voting member who represents the
5 State Department of Agriculture.

6 (c) The State Fish and Wildlife Director shall appoint one voting member who represents
7 the State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

8 (d) The President of the Senate shall appoint one nonvoting member who is a member
9 of the Senate.

10 (e) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one nonvoting member who
11 is a member of the House of Representatives.

12 (3) The task force shall:

13 (a) Investigate elk and deer damage on private, agricultural lands in the eight counties
14 described in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

15 (b) Make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly concerning a three-year elk and
16 deer damage compensation funding pilot program to be overseen by the State Department
17 of Agriculture, including recommendations on the amount of funding needed.

18 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
19 transaction of business.

20 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
21 members of the task force.

22 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

23 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
24 ment to become immediately effective.

25 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
26 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

27 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

28 (10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may
29 include recommendations for legislation, to a committee or interim committee of the Legis-
30 lative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2024.

31 (11) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the task
32 force.

33 (12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
34 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

35 (13) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for
36 expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

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

41 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

42 **SECTION 3.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
43 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
44 on its passage.