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.

Changes requirements for members of State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission; amending ORS 496.090.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 496.090 is amended to read:

496.090. (1) There is established a State Fish and Wildlife Commission that shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor.

(2) The term of office of each member is four years, but a member serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor. A member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

(3) All appointments of members of the commission by the Governor are subject to confirmation by the Senate pursuant to section 4, Article III, Oregon Constitution.

(4) [One member of the commission shall be appointed from] The seven members of the commission must be appointed as follows:

(a) One member from each of the [congressional districts of this state,] following five regional river basin management areas:

(A) The upper northwest region, consisting of the Lower and Middle Willamette, North Coast and Sandy drainage basins and the portion of the Columbia River drainage basin below Bonneville Dam;

(B) The southwest region, consisting of the Rogue, Klamath, Goose and Summer Lakes drainage basins and the portion of the South Coast drainage basins south of the mouth of the Rogue River;

(C) The west central region, consisting of the Umpqua, Mid Coast, Upper Willamette and the portion of the South Coast drainage basins north of the mouth of the Rogue River;

(D) The north central region, consisting of the Umatilla, John Day, Hood and Deschutes drainage basins and the portion of the Columbia River drainage basin above Bonneville Dam; and

(E) The eastern region, consisting of the Owyhee, Malheur, Grande Ronde, Malheur Lake, Middle Snake and Powder drainage basins;

(b) One member from [that portion of the state lying] west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains, as defined in ORS 477.001; and

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.

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(c) One member from [that portion of the state lying] east of the summit of the Cascade Mountains.

(5) Members appointed to the commission shall must:

(a) Be residents of this state, as defined in ORS 497.002.

(b) Have a general knowledge of fish and wildlife issues and an understanding of the operation and functions of the public policy boards and commissions.

(c) Have backgrounds in natural resource industries.

(d) Collectively represent all of the following natural resource industries:

(A) Agriculture;

(B) Fishing;

(C) Ranching;

(D) Forestry;

(E) Biology;

(F) Fields related to water; and

(G) Hunting.

(6) All members of the commission shall represent the public interest of the state and make decisions affecting the wildlife resources of the state for the benefit of those resources. Consistent with the requirements of this subsection, the commission shall provide for the productive and sustainable utilization of wildlife resources for all groups of users.

(7) All members of the commission shall have a general knowledge of fish and wildlife issues and an understanding of the operation and functions of public policy boards and commissions. In making appointments to the commission, the Governor shall consider appointing members who possess natural resource backgrounds such as backgrounds in commercial fishing, recreational fishing, hunting, agriculture, forestry and conservation.

(8) Failure of a member to maintain compliance with the eligibility requirements of subsections (4) and (5) of this section shall vacate membership. Members of the commission may otherwise be removed only by the Governor.

(9) A member of the commission is entitled to compensation and expenses as provided in ORS 292.495.