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.

Models requirements for composition of State Fish and Wildlife Commission on requirements for composition of State Board of Agriculture.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission; creating new provisions; and 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 the State Fish and Wildlife Director and a representative of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University, who shall be nonvoting members, and [seven] nine voting members appointed by the Governor.

(2) The State Fish and Wildlife Director shall act as secretary of the commission.

(3) The members the Governor appoints to the commission must be residents of Oregon. Not more than five of the voting members the Governor appoints to the commission may belong to the same political party. Party affiliation shall be determined by the appropriate entry on official election registration cards.

(4) The Governor shall appoint two voting members who are not actively involved in commercial or recreational activities related to the take of fish and wildlife to be representatives of the public interests. The Governor shall appoint seven voting members who are actively involved in commercial or recreational activities related to the take of fish and wildlife. The Governor shall seek to ensure that the appointed voting members who are actively involved in commercial or recreational activities related to the take of fish and wildlife reflect the diverse nature of commercial and recreational activities related to the take of fish and wildlife within the state.

(5) The term of office of each voting 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.

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

(7) One member of the commission shall be appointed from each of the congressional districts of this state, one member from that portion of the state lying west of the Cascade Mountains and one

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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(5) Members appointed to the commission shall be residents of this state, as defined in ORS 497.002.

(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.

(7) A person who serves two consecutive terms as a voting member is not eligible for appointment to another term on the commission until at least one year after the expiration of the second consecutive term.

SECTION 2. (1) The Governor shall appoint nine voting members to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission, consistent with the requirements of ORS 496.090, as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, to serve terms beginning July 1, 2024.

(2) On June 30, 2024, the terms of office of members then serving on the commission shall cease.

(3) A member whose term of office has been terminated by subsection (2) of this section is eligible for reappointment to the commission.

(4) Notwithstanding ORS 496.090 (7), as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, a member whose term was terminated under subsection (2) of this section and who is reappointed as authorized by subsection (3) of this section may serve both the reappointed term and a second consecutive term.

(5) Notwithstanding the term of office specified in ORS 496.090 (5), as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, of the voting members whose terms begin on July 1, 2024:

(a) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2025.

(b) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2026.

(c) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.