

Senate Bill 733

Sponsored by Senator GIROD (Pre-session 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**.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to make special cougar tags available that allow use of dogs to hunt cougars.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to cougars; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 498.164.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** (1) **The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish and make**
5 **available special cougar tags that allow the holder to use one or more dogs to hunt cougars.**

6 (2) **Notwithstanding ORS 497.132, a purchaser of a sportspac license may use dogs to hunt**
7 **cougars only if the purchaser obtains a special tag under this section.**

8 (3) **The department may not charge the purchaser of a sportspac license an additional fee**
9 **for the special tag.**

10 **SECTION 2.** ORS 498.164 is amended to read:

11 498.164. (1) Except as provided in [*subsections (2) and (3)*] **subsection (2)** of this section, a per-
12 son may not use bait to attract or take black bears or use one or more dogs to hunt or pursue black
13 bears or cougars.

14 (2) [*Nothing in*] Subsection (1) of this section [*prohibits*] **does not apply to:**

15 (a) The use of bait or one or more dogs by employees or agents of county, state or federal
16 agencies while acting in their official capacities.

17 [(3)] (b) [*Nothing in subsection (1) of this section prohibits*] The use of bait or dogs by persons for
18 the taking of black bears or cougars in accordance with the provisions of ORS 498.012 relating to
19 taking wildlife that is causing damage.

20 (c) **The use of one or more dogs for hunting cougars by a person holding a special cougar**
21 **tag issued under section 1 of this 2023 Act.**

22 [(4)] (3) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a Class A misdemeanor
23 and, upon conviction, shall in addition to appropriate criminal penalties have the person's privilege
24 to apply for any hunting license suspended for a period of five years for a first offense and perma-
25 nently suspended for any subsequent offense.

26 [(5)] (4) For the purposes of this section, "bait" means any material placed for the purpose of
27 attracting or attempting to attract bears.

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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.