

Submitter: Erik Colville
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR5

Please support HJR 5.

HJR 5, a constitutional amendment protecting hunting, fishing, and gathering, is often misunderstood. It will safeguard our right. It will stop attempts to outlaw collecting, hunting, and fishing. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can continue to regulate these activities reasonably.

Hunting, fishing, gathering, and foraging are constitutionally protected in 23 additional states. Oregon, hunters, anglers, and gatherers cannot be ignored. This measure will help Oregon's outdoor recreationists rest easy.

Talking points:

Oregonians have long had a strong interest in sourcing our own foods, including wild and foraged foods.

Self-reliant sourcing of wild foods is an integral part of Oregon's heritage.

Current initiatives are seeking to prohibit Oregonian's ability to provide for their family in the manner they choose, seeking to strip away the self-sufficiency Oregonians have to source their food in a natural and healthy manner.

Over the last three years, the nation has weathered food shortages driven by both the pandemic and natural disasters. Currently, we have only to look at the rising price of eggs to underscore the tenuousness of the national food network. Protecting Oregonians' ability to provide healthy, natural food sources for our families decreases our dependency on a food network that is both reactionary to inflation and subject to global shortages.

23 states have passed a constitutional protection for the right to fish and hunt.

What does HJR 5 do:

Ensures that current and future generations of Oregonians have the ability to fish, hunt, harvest, and gather to sustain themselves and their families.

Protects Oregonians from an outright ban on the ability to fish, hunt, harvest and gather.

Protects Oregonians ability to self-sufficiently provide for their families

Allows for the reasonable regulation of these activities through the Legislative Assembly, citizens of the State, and state agencies.

What HJR 5 does not do:

HJR 5 does not alter the wildlife conservation and management goals and priorities of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife. The 23 states that have a similar resolution show no change in the conservation priorities of their state fish & wildlife agencies.

HJR 5 does not endanger private, or public, property rights; the resolution cannot be used to trespass.

HJR 5 does not promote nor condone poaching or illegal harvest of plants or animals.

Thank you for your service.