HB 4132 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Action Date: 02/08/24

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.

(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Boice, Gamba, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McLain, Owens, Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued **Revenue:** No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to partner with the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, the State Land Board, and relevant state agencies to develop an adaptive management plan for Oregon's marine reserves and a collaborative process that incorporates social monitoring data into policy decisions.

Detailed Summary

Directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission), the State Land Board (Land Board), and relevant state agencies to implement recommendations from the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to develop an adaptive management plan for Oregon's marine reserves. Specifies the content of the adaptive management plan including monitoring and research, social impacts, long-term sampling protocols, data collection and evaluation, as well as outreach and engagement. Directs ODFW, the Commission, the Land Board, and relevant state agencies to develop a collaborative process that incorporates social monitoring data into policy decisions. Eliminates the work plan requirement to provide territorial sea baseline data and eliminates provisions restricting Commission fishing decisions associated with that data. Adds a requirement for continued community engagement to ensure marine reserve science is useful to communities and that community and fishermen knowledge is incorporated into ongoing research and monitoring efforts. Removes the requirement for work plan data and recommendations to be used by ODFW to inform recommendations on potential marine reserve sites. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effect of the amendment
- Intention behind the original appropriation and its removal by amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes the appropriation.

BACKGROUND:

A "marine reserve" defines an area within coastal waters dedicated to scientific research and conservation, where ocean development and removal of marine life is prohibited. A "marine protected area" refers to coastal waters directly next to a marine reserve, which have site-specific rules that allow some fishing activities while prohibiting development. Oregon currently has five marine reserves that have been officially designated for ocean areas along the coast. These marine reserves are managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, which handles planning and oversight of scientific research as well as monitoring within the reserves.