

HB 2576 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/28, 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies exemption to prohibition on trade of protected species of wildlife to bona fide scientific or educational institution for scientific or educational purposes includes distribution, sale or transfer of legal ownership of covered animal species. Identifies covered animal species listed by common name are also listed by species name in Appendix I or Appendix II of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Ballot measure 100
- Exemption for scientific or educational institution
- Naming of covered animal species

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies terms of exemption for scientific or educational institutions. Allows sale of covered animal species part or product by or to bona fide scientific or educational institutions when sale made pursuant to written gift agreement or similar instrument entered into before July 1, 2017. Authorizes Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to permit purchase, sale or donation of lawfully acquired covered animal species part or product by or to bona fide scientific or educational institution for scientific or educational purposes on or after July 1, 2017. Requires institution to keep documentation of transaction and provide copy to ODFW. Removes reference to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in definition of covered animal species.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2016, Oregon voters passed Ballot Measure 100, which prohibits the purchase, sale, or possession with intent to sell of parts or products from elephant, rhinoceros, whale, tiger, lion, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, pangolin, sea turtle, shark, or ray, subject to civil penalties. The measure created exceptions to the prohibition, including law enforcement activities; activities authorized by federal law; certain antiques over 100 years old; certain musical instruments; noncommercial transfers through estates, trusts, gifts; and possession by tribal members. An exception was also made for donations for scientific or educational purposes.

House Bill 2576 would clarify that the covered animal species referenced in Ballot Measure 100 by their common names are those listed by species name in Appendix I or Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, an international agreement among governments, including the United States, to restrict the trade of certain species. The bill would also clarify that the exception for scientific or educational purposes extends to "distribution, sale or transfer of legal ownership" of a covered animal species for such use, not only donations.