

HB 2030 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits state agency from restricting or closing access to state lands that are used for hunting until agency has notified Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and notice has been posted by ODFW on its website for at least 30 days to inform public. Excepts restrictions or closures for fire prevention or emergencies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces measure. Removes stipulation that number of tags issued for black bear for general hunting season must be less than three percent of all tags issued previous year. Maintains three percent cap on black bear tags issued by drawing. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, public lands are to remain open to hunting unless limited by a state agency for a purpose defined to be in the public interest. In this regard, state agencies are directed to avoid making determinations that result in a net loss of access to hunting on public lands. Further, state agencies are not required to give preference to hunting over other uses of public land determined to be in the public interest.

House Bill 2030 requires state agencies that restrict access to hunting on public lands to notify the Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and that ODFW post a notice for 30 days informing the public of the agencies plan to restrict or close access.