

HB 3087 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Natural Resources

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/2, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) to establish anti-poaching awareness program to: increase public awareness, increase reporting of poaching and related activities, increase law enforcement of poaching, and promote consistent prosecution and punishment of poaching. Allows Department to adopt rules to implement anti-poaching awareness program. Appropriates \$____ from General Fund to Department for anti-poaching awareness program. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Establishes specific wildlife violations as Class A, punishable by a fine of \$2,000, if committed without a culpable mental state. Establishes that unlawful taking of wildlife by an outfitter or guide, unlawful taking of more than 100 wildlife, and the second and subsequent unlawful taking with intent to sell, barter, trade, import, export, or otherwise exchange wildlife is a Class C felony, if committed with a culpable mental state. Authorizes ODFW use of drones in prevention or detection of poaching. Requires Attorney General make one or more employees of Department of Justice available to local government to assist prosecuting violations of wildlife law relating to poaching.

FISCAL: fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: No revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division (Division) is charged with enforcing fish, wildlife, environmental, and other criminal laws and protecting people, property, and natural resources. The Division is comprised of 120 sworn officers assigned statewide with specific duties and responsibilities to ensure compliance with natural resource laws. The Division attends various meetings, gives presentations to sporting enthusiast groups, educates students of all ages, assists with hunter education classes and field days, and shows support at angling derbies and other outdoor-related events.

House Bill 3087 would require the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to establish an anti-poaching awareness program.