

**SB 1543 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Manning Jr, Sen. Olsen

**Senate Committee On Veterans**

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**Action Date:** 02/10/20  
**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)  
**Vote:** 3-0-0-0  
**Yeas:** 3 - Manning Jr, Monnes Anderson, Olsen  
**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact  
**Revenue:** No revenue impact  
**Prepared By:** Michael Lantz, Counsel  
**Meeting Dates:** 2/5, 2/10

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows nonprofit organization, homes, and hospitals serving veterans or certain active duty military personnel to receive free group license to angle and harvest shellfish without permit, tag, or other endorsement. Requires staff member of organization to accompany participant. Limits veterans or active duty participant to three such events per year. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Efforts to assist veterans and returning service members
- Provision related to hunting
- Need for amendment

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under current Oregon law, a person seeking to fish or harvest shellfish must purchase applicable licenses, tags, and permits. Uniformed service members, disabled veterans, youth, and seniors are all eligible for free or reduced licenses. Additionally, hospitals or homes run by the veteran's administration may apply for up to 30 angling and shellfish harvesting licenses for patients or residents per year. However, nonprofits and other organizations wanting to take groups or individuals fishing or shellfish harvesting must purchase the proper licenses, tag, or permit for each individual.

Senate Bill 1543-A creates a free group fishing and shellfish harvesting license that is available to nonprofit organizations serving veterans and certain active duty personnel.