

HB 2728 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/9, 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits coyote contests, competitions, tournaments, or derbies for cash or prizes. Requires the hunter to forfeit the remains of a coyote killed during a prohibited event to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Punishes as a Class A violation. Allows a raffle conducted by a nonprofit organization to occur if the raffle does not award prizes based on the number, weight, or size of the coyotes taken.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) estimates that there are 300,000 coyotes in Oregon. Coyotes are not a protected species and the hunting of coyotes is not regulated by ODFW. Coyotes are statutorily defined as predatory animals and can be killed on an owner's land without a hunting permit and on public land with a permit. There is currently no limit on the number of coyotes that can be killed by a single individual or during a single hunting contest or event.

House Bill 2728 would prohibit coyote contests, competitions, tournaments, or derbies for cash or prizes, require a person in violation to forfeit the remains to ODFW, and punish as a Class A violation. The measure would exempt raffles conducted by non-profit organization if the prizes are not based on the number, weight, or size of coyotes taken.