

SB 637 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires person taking an antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, or mountain goat under permit described in ORS 498.012 (taking wildlife causing damage, posing public health risk or that is public nuisance) to offer game meat to a charitable organization. Allows person to retain game meat for private, non-commercial use after offering meat to least ___ organizations that refuse the game meat or to make any disposition of game meat authorized by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission by rule.

Defines "game meat" and "charitable organization" as defined in ORS 619.095:

(a) "Charitable organization" means the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Corrections institutions, low-income nutritional centers, public school nutritional centers, senior nutritional centers, state hospitals and other charitable organizations or public institutions approved by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife

(b) "Game meat" includes antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose and mountain goat.

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

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

No subsequent referral

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Wildlife Division of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has responsibility for monitoring the numbers and health of wildlife species, setting population conservation and management objectives, overseeing wildlife habitat restoration and maintenance, and regulating harvest of game animals.

Senate Bill 637 would allow a person taking an antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, or mountain goat to retain the game meat after offering the meat to a number of charitable organizations that refuse the donation.