

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 320 - A

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: John Terpening, Zane Potter
Date: April 15, 2021

Measure Description:

Authorizes issuance of group license for angling or shellfish to nonprofit organization serving veterans or certain armed forces members.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact - Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW):

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
Other Funds		
Personal Services	36,800	32,000
Total Other Funds	\$36,800	\$32,000

Summary of Revenue Impact - Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW):

Passage of this bill could potentially result in a loss of sport license fee revenues and federal funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Analysis:

SB 320 A-Engrossed allows nonprofit organizations registered in Oregon serving veterans, or armed forces members whose duty station is a warrior transition unit to conduct excursions during which the veterans or armed forces members may angle or take shellfish at no charge and without obtaining additional licenses, permits, tags or endorsements for the angling or taking. The measure limits the eligible non-profits to those having held angling and shellfish excursions prior to January 1, 2021. This program sunsets on January 2, 2027.

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

ODFW estimates the cost of administering this expanded access to be \$36,800 Other Funds for the 2021-23 biennium and \$32,000 Other Funds for the 2023-25 biennium. This amount reflects staffing for rulemaking and administering this program, including verifying of organizations applying for the license, overseeing the license with eligible organizations, verifying that individual participants qualify, and addressing expanded enforcement inquiries from the Oregon State Police. Nonprofits would be required to self-certify that they held fishing or shellfishing excursions before January 2021.

Furthermore, passage of this bill is likely to reduce agency revenues from two sources: (1) direct revenue from sport license fees; and (2) federal funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). ODFW receives funding from USFWS based on the number of unique paid license holders. Each participation under a nonprofit with no requirement for an individual license or additional permits, tags, or endorsements cannot be counted to obtain this federal funding. ODFW must make a \$2 profit on a license identifiable to a unique individual in order to receive funding through the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. At this time, this

loss of revenue is indeterminate because it's difficult to predict how many customers would take advantage of the opportunity afforded by this measure. As a point of reference, note that the current fee for an angling license is \$44 and the fee for a shellfish license is \$10, and for each free participation under this measure, ODFW would lose the potential for approximately \$14 in USFWS federal funding. Assuming 5% of Oregon veterans participated in this program, ODFW could lose approximately \$205,000 in revenues.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary and revenue impact on the Department of Fish and Wildlife.