

HB 3086 -9 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 5/23, 6/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) must be appointed by the Governor and must consist of one member from each of Oregon’s five regional river basin management areas, one member from east of the Cascade Mountains and one member from west of the Cascade Mountains.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-9 Replaces the measure. Provides that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) must be appointed by the Governor and must consist of a specified number of members from each of the following regional river basin management areas (Regions): **Two members from the Upper Northwest Region, one member from the Southwest Region, two members from the West Central Region, one member from the North Central Region, and one member from the Eastern Region.** Requires all members to understand the roles of federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon and of the relationships federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon have with lands, water, and the natural resources governed by the Commission. Requires the Governor to consider appointing members who possess knowledge or experience relevant to implementing Oregon’s wildlife policy and take into consideration outdoor recreation interest, heritage interest, and racial, ethnic, gender, and geographic diversity. Deletes existing requirement that the Governor consider appointing members who possess natural resource backgrounds such as backgrounds in commercial fishing, recreational fishing, hunting, agriculture, forestry, and conservation.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission was formed in 1975 to formulate general state programs and policies concerning management of fish and wildlife resources and to establish seasons, methods, and bag limits for commercial and recreational take. Currently ORS 496.090 specifies that the commission consists of seven members, one member appointed from each congressional district and one member from east of the Cascade Mountains and one member from west of the Cascade Mountains. Oregon gained one congressional seat after the 2020 census, which creates an inconsistency in ORS 496.090 between the total number of commissioners and requirement to appoint one member from each congressional district.

House Bill 3086 would change the make-up of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to consist of one member from each of Oregon’s five regional river basin management areas and one member from both east and west of the Cascade Mountains.