

HB 2163 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Meeting Dates: 1/29, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure expands Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s consideration of having a disability under wildlife laws related to angling or shellfish harvesting to include an intellectual or developmental disability that prevents a person from holding or operating angling and/or shellfish harvesting equipment, including rods, reels, clam guns, shovels, and other equipment typically used for angling or for harvesting shellfish.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of inclusivity in fishing activities
- Number of tickets written in response to current law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, hunters and anglers with certain physical disabilities may apply for a Disabilities Hunting and Fishing Permit. While this permit does not replace a hunting, fishing, or shellfish license, it offers additional accommodations and allows for assistance from others. With regard to Fishing, a disability permit may, for example, allow fishing from certain boats and platforms that are not open to regular license holders. When clam digging, a person holding a disability permit may be assisted by another person under certain circumstances. Permit holders must still obtain a fishing license and/or combined angling tag and clam diggers must obtain a shellfish license. Currently, qualifying disabilities are limited to certain physical conditions and impairments.