

# House Bill 2980

Sponsored by Representative HELM, Senator GORSEK, Representatives OWENS, HARTMAN, Senator REYNOLDS; Representatives ANDERSEN, CHAICHI, GAMBA, GOMBERG, HUDSON, LEVY B, MARSH, NOSSE, PHAM H, WALTERS, Senators CAMPOS, FREDERICK, GELSER BLOUIN, GOLDEN, TAYLOR (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells ODFW to set up a Wildlife Stewardship Program. (Flesch Readability Score: 80.3).

Directs the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish a Wildlife Stewardship Program. Directs the department to administer a grant program to support licensed wildlife rehabilitation centers. Appropriates moneys to the department, out of the General Fund, for purposes of the grant program.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to wildlife.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish the Wildlife**  
5 **Stewardship Program.**

6 **(2) The program shall develop an educational campaign focused on messaging for living**  
7 **with wildlife in urban and suburban areas, minimizing human-wildlife conflict and emphasiz-**  
8 **ing the core value that wildlife should stay wild.**

9 **(3)(a) The program shall include biologists stationed in strategic locations of this state**  
10 **and serving the urban and adjacent suburban areas near their stations.**

11 **(b) The biologists shall:**

12 **(A) Conduct outreach to local governments, community groups and schools;**

13 **(B) Provide training sessions for local governments, community groups, schools, law**  
14 **enforcement, animal control and other interested groups;**

15 **(C) Provide assistance and support to local wildlife rehabilitators with their efforts to**  
16 **care for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife, provide assistance to local wildlife rehabilitators**  
17 **regarding rules and practices for the holding and proper care of wildlife and conduct in-**  
18 **spections of local wildlife rehabilitation centers and facilities; and**

19 **(D) Work collaboratively with wildlife rehabilitators to consistently implement rules and**  
20 **practices related to the topics described in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, to the extent**  
21 **practicable.**

22 **(4) The program shall administer a grant program to support licensed wildlife rehabili-**  
23 **tation centers that hold and treat injured and orphaned wildlife.**

24 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
25 **ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025,**  
26 **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$200,000 for the purpose of carrying out the grant**  
27 **program described in section 1 (4) of this 2025 Act.**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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