

House Bill 3596

Sponsored by Representatives OWENS, LEVY B; Representatives BOICE, SCHARF

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 an agency to study mule deer in the Steens Mountain herd range area. The Act gives money for the study. (Flesch Readability Score: 84.8).

Directs the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to study mule deer in the Steens Mountain herd range area. Directs the department to report to the committees or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2028.

Appropriates moneys to the department out of the General Fund for the study.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to wildlife management; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall study mule deer in the**
5 **Steens Mountain herd range area to determine the effects of:**

6 (a) **Mule deer maternal condition on population levels.**

7 (b) **Habitat conditions on mule deer maternal conditions.**

8 (c) **Predation on mule deer survival rates.**

9 (2) **In conducting the study, the department shall use parameters and metrics that are**
10 **consistent with parameters and metrics that the department has used to study the Murder-**
11 **ers Creek and Klamath herd range areas.**

12 (3) **The department shall begin the study on or before December 31, 2026.**

13 (4) **The department shall submit a report on the study in the manner provided by ORS**
14 **192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the committees or interim**
15 **committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September**
16 **15, 2028.**

17 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2029.**

18 **SECTION 3. There is appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the**
19 **biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000 for the**
20 **purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2025 Act. This appropriation is**
21 **available continuously until expended for the purpose specified in this section.**

22 **SECTION 4. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
23 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
24 **on its passage.**

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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.