

# Senate Bill 412

Sponsored by Senator GIROD (Pre-session 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 an agency to create special cougar tags for hunting or chasing cougars with dogs. The Act allows a person who buys a certain license to get a special cougar tag for free. (Flesch Readability Score: 73.0).

Requires the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to make special cougar tags available that allow the use of dogs to hunt or pursue cougars.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to cougars; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 498.164.

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

3 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish and make**  
4 **available special cougar tags that allow the holder to use one or more dogs to hunt or pursue**  
5 **cougars.**

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7 **(2) Notwithstanding ORS 497.132, a purchaser of a sportspac license may use dogs to hunt**  
8 **or pursue cougars only if the purchaser obtains a special cougar tag under this section.**

9 **(3) The department may not charge the purchaser of a sportspac license an additional fee**  
10 **for the special cougar tag.**

11 **SECTION 2.** ORS 498.164 is amended to read:

12 498.164. (1) Except as provided in [*subsections (2) and (3)*] **subsection (2)** of this section, a per-  
13 son may not use bait to attract or take black bears or use one or more dogs to hunt or pursue black  
14 bears or cougars.

15 (2) [*Nothing in*] Subsection (1) of this section [*prohibits*] **does not apply to:**

16 **(a)** The use of bait or one or more dogs by employees or agents of county, state or federal  
17 agencies while acting in their official capacities.

18 [(3)] **(b)** [*Nothing in subsection (1) of this section prohibits*] The use of bait or dogs by persons for  
19 the taking of black bears or cougars in accordance with the provisions of ORS 498.012 relating to  
20 taking wildlife that is causing damage.

21 **(c) The use of one or more dogs for hunting or pursuing cougars by a person holding a**  
22 **special cougar tag issued under section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

23 [(4)] **(3)** [*Any*] **A** person who violates subsection (1) of this section commits a Class A  
24 misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall in addition to appropriate criminal penalties have the  
25 person's privilege to apply for any hunting license suspended for a period of five years for a first  
26 offense and permanently suspended for any subsequent offense.

27 [(5)] **(4)** [*For the purposes of*] **As used in** this section, "bait" means any material placed for the  
28 purpose of attracting or attempting to attract bears.

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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.