A-Engrossed House Bill 4148

Ordered by the House February 16 Including House Amendments dated February 16

Sponsored by Representative HELM, Senators DEMBROW, GORSEK, Representatives ANDERSEN, HARTMAN, JAVADI, MARSH, OWENS; Representatives BYNUM, GAMBA, GOMBERG, HOLVEY, HUDSON, LEVY B, LEVY E, LIVELY, NELSON, NGUYEN D, NOSSE, PHAM K, REYNOLDS, SCHARF, WALTERS, Senators CAMPOS, FREDERICK, GELSER BLOUIN, GOLDEN, HANSELL, JAMA, MANNING JR, MEEK, PATTERSON, PROZANSKI, SOLLMAN, 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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act directs an agency to expand programs related to wildlife illness. The Act directs an agency to perform a review. The Act directs an agency to establish a program for living with wildlife. The Act makes changes related to wildlife paths and roads. The Act gives moneys for re-lated purposes. The Act goes into effect when the Governor signs it. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.3). Directs the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to expand programs related to wildlife dis-

ease.

Directs the Invasive Species Council to undertake a review of council programs and activities. Directs the department to establish a wildlife coexistence program.

Makes certain changes concerning a program to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions. Appropriates moneys out of the General Fund for implementing the expansion, review, new program and changes to wildlife programs.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

1	A BILL FOR AN ACT
2	Relating to natural resources; creating new provisions; amending ORS 366.161 and 366.162; and de-
3	claring an emergency.
4	Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
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6	WILDLIFE DISEASE PROGRAMS
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8	SECTION 1. (1) In partnership with Oregon State University and the Oregon Veterinary
9	Diagnostic Laboratory, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall expand programs
10	related to wildlife disease to improve the state's coordination, monitoring, prevention and
11	response related to zoonotic diseases and other wildlife diseases of concern.
12	(2) To implement subsection (1) of this section, the department and the university shall
13	consult with the Invasive Species Council and may consult with other entities or experts as
14	needed.
15	SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.
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17	INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL
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19	SECTION 3. (1) The Invasive Species Council shall review programs and activities under
20	ORS 570.755, including but not limited to the operation and capacity of the council, intera-

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1	gency coordination, outreach and education and emergency response, to identify and prior-
2	itize actions that would improve the state's ability to prevent:
3	(a) Negative impacts from invasive species; and
4	(b) The establishment of invasive species in this state.
5	(2) Subject to available funding, the council shall implement actions identified under
6	subsection (1) of this section, in a manner consistent with the provisions of ORS 570.750,
7	570.755, 570.770, 570.775, 570.780, 570.790, 570.800, 570.810 and 570.815.
8	(3) On or before December 15, 2025, the council shall report, in the manner provided by
9	ORS 192.245, to the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
10	Water on the status of the requirements described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section.
11	(4) The report described in subsection (3) of this section may be provided as part of the
12	report required by ORS 570.815.
13	SECTION 4. Section 3 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.
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15	WILDLIFE COEXISTENCE
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17	SECTION 5. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish and maintain
18	a wildlife coexistence program that aims to reduce conflicts and promote coexistence be-
19	tween humans and wildlife, in accordance with the wildlife policy described in ORS 496.012.
20	(2) Subject to available funding, program activities may include, but need not be limited
21	to:
22	(a) Human-wildlife conflict resolution, outreach, education and training.
23	(b) Support or grants for wildlife rehabilitation centers, operating under valid permits
24	issued by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission pursuant to rules adopted under ORS
25	497.308, that treat injured or orphaned wildlife.
26	(c) Other work related to wildlife stewardship and compatibility living with wildlife in
27	areas of high potential conflict between humans and wildlife.
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29	WILDLIFE CORRIDORS
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31	SECTION 6. ORS 366.161 is amended to read:
32	366.161. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish a program to reduce wildlife-
33	vehicle collisions in areas where wildlife corridors identified in the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan
34	by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife intersect with proposed or existing public roads.
35	(2) The program shall include, but need not be limited to[,]:
36	(a) Feasibility studies;
37	(b) Plans for creating or modifying road infrastructure in a manner that reduces wildlife-vehicle
38	collisions and promotes public safety[.];
39	(c) Updates to the guidance, standards and specifications of highways that are necessary
40	for incorporating wildlife corridor features into the design, construction and modification of
41	highways; and
42	(d) A list of priority projects to reduce collisions between wildlife and vehicles that:
43	(A) Is developed in consultation with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, with
44	opportunity for public input; and (R) Is made publicly available on a website of the Department of Transportation
45	(B) Is made publicly available on a website of the Department of Transportation.

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1	(3) The [plans] program may include, but need not be limited to, the use of wildlife crossing
2	structures and roadway fencing.
3	[(2)] (4) To the extent practicable, the Department of Transportation shall coordinate with local
4	governments, as defined in ORS 174.116, and the tribal governments for tribes and bands listed under
5	ORS 172.110, to achieve the goals of the program described in this section.
6	SECTION 7. ORS 366.162 is amended to read:
7	366.162. [(1) The Department of Transportation shall establish the program required under ORS
8	366.161 no later than December 31, 2023.]
9	[(2) Until the Department of Transportation establishes the program, the Department of Transpor-
10	tation and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall coordinate efforts to reduce wildlife-vehicle
11	collisions based on the data gathered under ORS 496.272. The Department of Transportation shall
12	consider the benefit of including a wildlife crossing as part of a project if the data suggests that such
13	a crossing could significantly reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions.]
14	[(3)] (1) The Department of Transportation shall report biennially regarding the status of the
15	program required under ORS 366.161 to interim or regular Senate and House committees relating
16	to natural resources in the manner provided by ORS 192.245.
17	(2) The report [<i>shall</i>] must include, but not be limited to[,]:
18	(a) Information concerning the number and types of wildlife corridor infrastructure projects
19	that have been established, studied or planned, including priority projects to reduce collisions
20	between wildlife and vehicles [and];
21	(b) A description of a timeline for implementing the wildlife corridor infrastructure
22	projects;
23	(c) An estimate of the costs and funding sources for the wildlife corridor infrastructure
24	projects;
25	(d) A description of all actions the department has taken to secure funding for the pro-
26	gram;
27	(e) Recommendations for a strategy for ongoing funding for the program, including, but
28	not limited to, how to:
29	(A) Ensure the existence of one or more dedicated funding sources that meet program
30	needs; and
31	(B) Secure federal competitive grants; and
32	(f) A description of the realized or expected [<i>effect</i>] effects of established, studied or planned
33	wildlife corridor infrastructure projects on the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions.
34	SECTION 8. (1) Contingent on available funding, the State Department of Fish and
35	Wildlife shall undertake, or provide assistance to partners that undertake or plan to under-
36	take projects to support wildlife mobility and habitat connectivity within priority wildlife
37	connectivity areas identified in the Oregon Connectivity Assessment and Mapping Project,
38	if the projects are consistent with the activities described in ORS 496.252 (2).
39	(2) In carrying out this section the department shall consider opportunities to secure
40	competitive federal grants, and other matching funds, for relevant projects.
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42	APPROPRIATIONS
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44	SECTION 9. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
45	ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025,

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1	out of the General Fund, the following amounts:
2	(1) \$1,177,000, for purposes described in section 1 of this 2024 Act, including expanding the
	capacity of the Wildlife Health Laboratory and expanding sample collection related to chronic
3	wasting disease.
4	(2) \$1,468,830, for purposes related to the wildlife coexistence program described in sec-
5 C	(2) \$1,466,850, for purposes related to the whome coexistence program described in sec- tion 5 of this 2024 Act.
6	(3) \$300,000, for awarding grants to wildlife rehabilitation centers, as described in section
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8	5 (2)(b) of this 2024 Act.
9	SECTION 10. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appro-
10	priated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for distribution to Oregon State
11	University for the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, for the biennium ending June
12	30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the following amounts:
13	(1) \$1,250,000, for increasing personnel and supplies related to zoonotic diseases, as de-
14	scribed in section 1 of this 2024 Act.
15	(2) \$330,000, for additional equipment related to zoonotic diseases, as described in section
16	1 of this 2024 Act.
17	(3) \$455,000, for increasing personnel and supplies related to chronic wasting disease, as
18	described in section 1 of this 2024 Act.
19	(4) \$245,000, for additional equipment related to chronic wasting disease, as described in
20	section 1 of this 2024 Act.
21	SECTION 11. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appro-
22	priated to the Invasive Species Council, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the
23	General Fund, the following amounts:
24	(1) \$220,000, for purposes described in section 3 of this 2024 Act.
25	(2) \$500,000, for deposit in the Invasive Species Council Account established under ORS
26	570.800, for supporting outreach and education to implement the provisions of section 3 of
27	this 2024 Act.
28	(3) \$750,000, for deposit in the Invasive Species Control Account established under ORS
29	570.810, for funding activities to implement the provisions of section 3 of this 2024 Act.
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31	CAPTIONS
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33	SECTION 12. The unit captions used in this 2024 Act are provided only for the conven-
34	ience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any
35	legislative intent in the enactment of this 2024 Act.
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37	EFFECTIVE DATE
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39	SECTION 13. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
40	peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect
41	on its passage.
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