

A-Engrossed House Bill 4040

Ordered by the House February 10
Including House Amendments dated February 10

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources)

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.

Ratifies decision of State Fish and Wildlife Commission to remove *Canis lupus* from state list of endangered species.

[Prohibits commission from including Canis lupus on lists of threatened species or endangered species unless certain criteria met.]

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to *Canis lupus*; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas *Canis lupus*, commonly known as the gray wolf, was extirpated from Oregon by 1950; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* has been listed as a state-designated endangered species since the enactment of ORS 496.171 to 496.182 by the Legislative Assembly in 1987; and

Whereas a *Canis lupus* population has been reestablished in Oregon and has been increasing in both distribution and abundance since 2008; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* is not now and is not likely in the foreseeable future to be in danger of extinction in Oregon; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* has natural reproductive potential that is not in danger of failure due to limited population numbers, disease, predation or other natural or human actions affecting continued existence of the species; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* is not undergoing imminent or active deterioration of range or primary habitat; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* is not subject to overutilization of the species or its habitat for commercial, recreational, scientific or educational purposes; and

Whereas *Canis lupus* has adequate protection under existing state programs, laws and regulations, including the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan and associated rules adopted by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission; and

Whereas the commission took administrative action on November 9, 2015, to remove *Canis lupus* from the Oregon lists of threatened species or endangered species; and

Whereas the commission developed extensive analyses and assessments that were made publicly available for review and comment through a series of public hearings; and

Whereas the commission provided their analyses and assessments for review by experts in the field of wildlife management; and

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.

Whereas the commission has received and reviewed thousands of public comments on this matter, including many hours of public testimony; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. The administrative rule amendment adopted by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission on November 9, 2015, to remove *Canis lupus*, commonly known as the gray wolf, from the state lists of threatened species or endangered species established pursuant to ORS 496.172 (2), is ratified as satisfying the elements of ORS 496.176 and approved.

SECTION 2. This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect on its passage.
