



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

Oregon State Legislature  
State Capitol  
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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **Stiffer poaching penalties progress to Governor for signature**

*HB 4046 cracks down on illegal taking or killing of game animals*

SALEM – The Oregon Senate today passed a bill to impose tougher penalties on poachers.

House Bill 4046 – which passed by a 22-6 vote in the Senate – increases penalties for unlawfully taking or killing certain game wildlife, commonly known as poaching. Activities considered to be poaching include killing an animal out of season, without a license or with a prohibited weapon or in a prohibited manner. Killing a protected species, exceeding a bag limit or killing an animal while trespassing also can be considered poaching.

“Poaching is a serious problem around the state and, by its nature, is fairly prevalent in rural Oregon,” said Sen. Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay), who carried the bill. “This bill represents a bipartisan solution to reducing poaching in Oregon.”

The bill increases the maximum fine amount for illegally taking certain species and requires the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits issued to those convicted of a first poaching offense. Upon an individual’s second conviction within a 10-year period, the bill prohibits the individual from applying for or obtaining a license, tag or permit. Upon a third poaching conviction within 10 years, all guns, boats, vehicles, traps and other implements used in committing the offense are subject to civil forfeiture. HB 4046 specifies the taking or killing of each single animal constitutes a separate offense. HB 4046 now goes to Gov. Kate Brown for signature.

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