

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0  
**Yeas:** Atkinson, Boquist, Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** 0  
**Prepared By:** Beth Herzog, Administrator  
**Meeting Dates:** 2/17, 2/26

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Expands the membership of forestland classification committees to include one member appointed by the State Fire Marshal. Authorizes the governing bodies of two or more counties to establish a joint forestland classification committee. Clarifies forestland classifications. Authorizes the State Board of Forestry to adopt rules to implement the changes.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Increased demand for homes in wild land urban interface
- Demographics have changed since program was last updated

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Any county containing forestland may establish a forestland classification committee. The committee is comprised of five members. The State Forester and the Director of the Oregon University Extension Services each appoint one member; the remaining three members are appointed by the county governing body. The committee investigates and studies all forestland within the county to determine what land is suitable primarily for the production of timber, joint use for timber production and livestock grazing, and which is suitable primarily for grazing or other agricultural uses. These determinations must take into consideration specific factors including: climate, topography, elevation, rainfall, soil conditions, roads, and the extent of fire hazards. The classification is used to identify and classify lands on which assessments are paid to the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) for fire protection. The classification system has not been updated in over 30 years. The bill is a result of a 2006 stakeholder review process.