

Senate Bill 459

Sponsored by Senator GEORGE (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 **as introduced**.

Establishes policy direction for management of state forestlands, including management for timber harvesting. Directs State Board of Forestry to modify forest management plans to reflect policy direction.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to forest land management; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 527.630.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 527.630 is amended to read:

5 527.630. (1) Forests make a vital contribution to Oregon by providing jobs, products, tax base
6 and other social and economic benefits, by helping to maintain forest tree species, soil, air and water
7 resources and by providing a habitat for wildlife and aquatic life. Therefore, it is declared to be the
8 public policy of the State of Oregon to encourage economically efficient forest practices that ensure
9 the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species and the maintenance of forestland for
10 such purposes as the leading use on privately owned land, consistent with sound management of soil,
11 air, water, fish and wildlife resources and scenic resources within visually sensitive corridors as
12 provided in ORS 527.755 and to ensure the continuous benefits of those resources for future gener-
13 ations of Oregonians.

14 (2) It is recognized that operations on forestland are already subject to other laws and to reg-
15 ulations of other agencies which deal primarily with consequences of such operations rather than
16 the manner in which operations are conducted. It is further recognized that it is essential to avoid
17 uncertainty and confusion in enforcement and implementation of such laws and regulations and in
18 planning and carrying out operations on forestlands.

19 (3) To encourage forest practices implementing the policy of ORS 527.610 to 527.770 [*and 527.990*
20 *and 527.992*], it is declared to be in the public interest to vest in the State Board of Forestry ex-
21 clusive authority to develop and enforce statewide and regional rules pursuant to ORS 527.710 and
22 to coordinate with other state agencies and local governments [*which*] **that** are concerned with the
23 forest environment.

24 (4) **The sound management under ORS 530.050 of soil, water, fish and wildlife resources**
25 **on forestlands acquired under ORS 530.010 to 530.040 and on other forestlands, including but**
26 **not limited to Common School Forest Lands and Elliott State Forest Lands managed under**
27 **ORS 530.490, shall be achieved through compliance with ORS 527.610 to 527.770. Sound man-**
28 **agement under ORS 530.050 includes the management of forestlands acquired under ORS**
29 **530.010 to 530.040, Common School Forest Lands, Elliott State Forest Lands and other**
30 **forestlands to allow annual timber harvesting in a forest region that averages 90 percent of**
31 **the annual harvestable timber production expected to be achieved in the forest region under**

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.

1 **ORS 527.610 to 527.770. However, the management practices specified by this subsection do**
2 **not apply to lands described in ORS 530.025 to the extent that application of the management**
3 **practices would violate any contractual obligation, covenant or intergovernmental agreement**
4 **with regard to those lands.**

5 [(4)] (5) The board may adopt and enforce rules addressing scenic considerations only in ac-
6 cordance with ORS 527.755.

7 [(5)] (6) The board shall adopt and enforce forest practice rules to reduce the risk of serious
8 bodily injury or death from a rapidly moving landslide only in accordance with ORS 527.710 (10).
9 As used in this subsection, “rapidly moving landslide” has the meaning given in ORS 195.250.

10 [(6)] (7) The State of Oregon should provide a stable regulatory environment to encourage in-
11 vestment in private forestlands.

12 **SECTION 2. Not later than one year after the effective date of this 2011 Act, the State**
13 **Board of Forestry shall modify forest management plans developed by the board before the**
14 **effective date of this 2011 Act to the extent modification is necessary to achieve the policy**
15 **goals and direction established by the amendments to ORS 527.630 by section 1 of this 2011**
16 **Act. The modification of forest management plans under this section may include, if neces-**
17 **sary, the modification or suspension of any other forest structure goals.**

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