

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means

Vote: 8 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Clem, Esquivel, Krieger, Reardon, Thompson, Unger, Whitsett, Witt

Nays: 0

Exc.: McKeown

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/9, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Director of Oregon Health Authority to prepare report on impacts of 2012 Pole Creek forest wildfire on public health, fish and wildlife and aquatic habitat and submit report to Legislative Assembly no later than February 10, 2014. Specifies director and State Forester to prepare and submit report for purpose of public awareness of impact of wildfires. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 2012 Pole Creek wildfire near Sisters, Oregon
- Important of increasing public awareness of wildfire impacts
- Timing of report submittal

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: The 2012 Pole Creek fire began on September 9 and grew to 26,795 acres before it was contained in mid-October. The fire investigation team concluded the probable cause of the fire was lightning from a small isolated thunderstorm in the area of Pole Creek Trailhead late in the day on Sept. 8, 2012. The fire directly affected the community of Sisters for many days. House Bill 3109 A would direct the Oregon Health Authority to prepare a report for the Legislative Assembly on the impacts of the Pole Creek wildfire on public health, fish and wildlife and aquatic habitat.