

House Bill 3324

Sponsored by Representative WHITSETT; Representatives CAMERON, CONGER, ESQUIVEL, FREEMAN, JENSON, KRIEGER, OLSON, SMITH, SPRENGER, THATCHER, WHISNANT, Senators BAERTSCHIGER JR, CLOSE, HANSELL, KNOPP, KRUSE, THOMSEN, WHITSETT

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**.

Requires that annual report by State Forester to Emergency Board include private property loss information for fires of 1,000 acres or more.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to State Forester reporting of private property losses from fire; creating new provisions;
3 and amending ORS 477.777.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 477.777 is amended to read:

6 477.777. (1) As part of the preparation of the budget forms submitted to the Oregon Department
7 of Administrative Services pursuant to ORS 291.208 for the State Forestry Department, the State
8 Forester shall prepare, in addition to any amounts budgeted for forest protection districts pursuant
9 to ORS 477.205 to 477.281, a budget request for a General Fund appropriation that may be used for
10 any or all of the following:

11 (a) Providing funds for the purchase of insurance under ORS 477.775.

12 (b) Placement of centrally managed fire suppression resources for statewide use.

13 (c) Acquisition of fast-mobilizing, short-term contingency resources to be used based on predic-
14 tions of unusually severe fire weather, widespread lightning events or serious resource shortage due
15 to a heavy fire season.

16 (d) Enhancement of forest protection district resources in limited cases where land productivity
17 or other economic factors seriously limit the protection district's ability to provide adequate funding
18 to meet performance standards.

19 (2) The State Forester shall utilize critical discretion in the expenditure of the funds provided
20 to the State Forestry Department pursuant to the separate budget request required under subsection
21 (1) of this section.

22 (3) The State Forester shall report to the Emergency Board, each year, after the close of the fire
23 season, on:

24 (a) The nature and severity of the fire season;

25 (b) The moneys expended on fire suppression;

26 (c) The rationale for the expenditures; and

27 (d) The balance remaining from the biennial appropriation.

28 **(4) When reporting the nature and severity of the fire season under subsection (3) of this**
29 **section, for each fire consuming 1,000 or more acres the State Forester shall provide infor-**
30 **mation regarding the resulting losses on private lands of timber, buildings, fencing and live-**

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 stock and of grazing land capacity if the land is expected to be unavailable for two or more
2 grazing seasons.

3 SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 477.777 by section 1 of this 2013 Act apply to State
4 Forester reports regarding fire seasons that begin on or after the effective date of this 2013
5 Act.

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