

HB 3006 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/11, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Forestry to establish list of Oregon-based contract firefighting companies and dispatch resources of those contract companies prior to obtaining resources from federal agencies.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Local and state response to wildfire events
- Preference for Oregon contractors
- Issues of proximity and cost

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Requires Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to establish a list of Oregon-based contractors determined to be qualified to supply ODF with wildfire suppression support. Directs ODF to establish to establish initial list of Oregon-qualified contractors prior to fire season beginning January 1, 2018. Takes effect on 91st day after 2017 sine die.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is currently tasked with the management of wildfires throughout the State of Oregon. During 2016, ODF managed 831 fires encompassing over 50,000 acres. ODF was able to complete this task through the contracting of 46 private wildfire fighting companies.

House Bill 3006 would require ODF to create a list of private wildfire fighting contractors, and prioritize Oregon-based companies to provide such services.