

House Bill 2494

Sponsored by Representative BENTZ (at the request of King Williams) (Pre-session 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**.

Allows five years to satisfy requirements for stocking levels on forestland tract where forest resource salvage operation is conducted predominantly to remove or mitigate damage arising from wildfire.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to stocking levels on forestland tracts damaged by wildfire.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 527.610 to**
5 **527.770.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

7 (a) "Forest resource" has the meaning given that term in ORS 477.001.

8 (b) "Wildfire" means a fire that damages forest resources while burning uncontrolled.

9 (2) Notwithstanding ORS 527.745 and 527.755, or any standard or rule adopted by the State
10 Board of Forestry under ORS 527.745, except as provided in this section, if harvesting of
11 forest resources is conducted predominantly for salvage purposes to remove or mitigate
12 damage arising from a wildfire on forestland, the operator, landowner or timber owner has
13 five years to satisfy any requirement regarding stocking levels that applies to the forestland
14 tract following the salvage operation. Upon request by an owner or operator, the board may
15 extend, for a period not exceeding five years, the time allowed under this section to satisfy
16 requirements regarding stocking levels.

17 (3) Subsection (2) of this section does not prohibit the lawful exercise of any other board
18 or State Forester authority to allow additional time for satisfying a requirement regarding
19 stocking levels on forestland.

20 (4) The board shall adopt rules to administer and enforce this section.

21 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2017 Act applies to forestland tracts on which an operation**
22 **to harvest forest resources is initiated on or after the effective date of this 2017 Act.**

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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.