

Senate Bill 1017

Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI

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 State Forester to establish guidelines for wildfire buffer zones that produce defensible spaces around lands in forestland-urban interface. Provides tax credit to landowner that establishes wildfire buffer zone.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to wildfire buffer zones for lands in forestland-urban interface.

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 477.015 to**
5 **477.061.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) The State Forester shall establish guidelines for wildfire buffer zones that**
7 **provide defensible space on lands in forestland-urban interface. The guidelines shall, at a**
8 **minimum, provide for the removal of all trees within 300 feet of any residential structure.**
9 **The State Forester may establish additional vegetation removal or limitation provisions un-**
10 **der the guidelines. The wildfire buffer zone guidelines for a property shall be in addition to**
11 **any applicable minimum standards under ORS 477.059 based on the classification of the land.**

12 **(2) An owner of land in a forestland-urban interface may file a certificate of compliance**
13 **with wildfire buffer zone guidelines with the State Forester in the same manner as for filing**
14 **a certificate of compliance described in ORS 477.059. The State Forester may inspect land**
15 **during reasonable hours to verify information contained in a certificate filed under this sec-**
16 **tion. A certificate under this section must be filed in each year for which the owner is al-**
17 **lowed a tax credit under section 4 of this 2017 Act.**

18 **SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 315.**

19 **SECTION 4. (1) A credit against taxes otherwise due under ORS chapter 316 or, if the**
20 **taxpayer is a corporation, under ORS chapter 317 or 318, shall be allowed if the taxpayer files**
21 **a valid certificate of compliance with wildfire buffer zone guidelines under section 2 of this**
22 **2017 Act during the tax year. The credit allowed under this section shall be an amount equal**
23 **to _____ percent of the assessment under ORS 477.230 paid by the taxpayer on land in**
24 **forestland-urban interface for which a valid certificate was filed under section 2 of this 2017**
25 **Act.**

26 **(2) Any tax credit otherwise allowable under this section that is not used by the taxpayer**
27 **in a particular tax year may be carried forward and offset against the taxpayer's tax liability**
28 **for the next succeeding tax year, but may not be carried forward to any tax year thereafter.**

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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.