

Senate Bill 434

Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI (Presession 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**.

Creates Task Force on Wildfire Damage Financial Relief. Requires task force to develop recommendations regarding increasing maximum household income levels qualifying for financial assistance from Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Account.

Requires task force to report findings and recommendations to interim committee of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2019. Sunsets task force December 31, 2019.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to financial assistance to households of lower income following a wildfire; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Wildfire Damage Financial Relief is established.**

6 **(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:**

7 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one nonvoting member from among mem-**
8 **bers of the Senate.**

9 **(b) The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one voting member with expertise in post-**
10 **disaster community recovery.**

11 **(c) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one nonvoting member**
12 **from among members of the House of Representatives.**

13 **(d) The House Minority Leader shall appoint one voting member with expertise in post-**
14 **disaster community recovery.**

15 **(e) The Governor shall appoint five voting members, one with expertise in banking, one**
16 **with expertise in residential construction and three who are landowners who experienced loss**
17 **from devastating wildfire on or after January 1, 2013, and on or before December 31, 2015.**

18 **(3) The task force shall study the economic and other post-disaster needs of households**
19 **suffering loss of housing from wildfire occurring in recent fire years, as defined by the task**
20 **force, including but not limited to the Canyon Creek Complex fire in 2015. The task force**
21 **shall develop recommendations based on the study regarding whether, and to what extent,**
22 **the maximum household income level qualifying for financial assistance from the Wildfire**
23 **Damage Housing Relief Account should be increased.**

24 **(4) The task force may take all lawful actions and exercise any lawful powers the task**
25 **force deems reasonable for facilitating its work, including but not limited to conducting**
26 **public hearings.**

27 **(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**
28 **transaction of business.**

29 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**

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 members of the task force.

2 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

3 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
4 ment to become immediately effective.

5 (9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
6 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

7 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

8 (11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
9 may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative
10 Assembly related to human services no later than September 15, 2019.

11 (12) The Housing and Community Services Department shall provide staff support to the
12 task force.

13 (13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
14 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
15 force.

16 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
17 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by
18 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
19 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

20 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2019.

21 SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
22 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
23 on its passage.

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