A-Engrossed

House Bill 4118

Ordered by the House February 16
Including House Amendments dated February 16

Sponsored by Representatives BONHAM, SMITH DB; Representatives NEARMAN, WILSON (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.

[Requires Governor to review terms of Good Neighbor Authority Agreement. Requires Governor to work with United States Forest Service to give priority to projects that increase certain services to produce increased timber harvest volumes, are self-sustaining and maximize financial return to Oregon.]

Expresses state policy regarding pursuit of projects under Good Neighbor Authority Agreement. Instructs signatory state agencies to work with federal land management agencies to prioritize projects.

Requires Governor and Federal Forest Working Group to jointly develop recommendations for goals of Good Neighbor Authority Agreement. Establishes deadline for Governor or designee agency to report recommendations for goals to Legislative Assembly.

[Requires Secretary of State to conduct audit of State Forestry Department expenditures or obligations of certain lottery money allocations for purposes related to federal forestland projects. Requires that audit include certain information concerning projects or parts of projects for which department expended or obligated moneys. Establishes deadline for reporting audit results and information to Legislative Assembly.]

Allocates lottery funds to State Forestry Department for supporting development, planning or implementation of priority projects on federal forestland under Good Neighbor Authority Agreement.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to projects on federal lands; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Additive” means an increase in the pace, scale and quality of forest, rangeland and water restoration services on federal lands within Oregon, including but not limited to services to produce timber harvest volumes that exceed outputs that would be produced by federal land management agencies alone.

(b) “Federal land management agencies” means the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

(c) “Forest, rangeland and water restoration services” means activities that:

(A) Treat insect-infested or disease-infected trees;

(B) Reduce hazardous fuels; or

(C) Restore or improve forest, rangeland or watershed health, including but not limited to fish or wildlife habitat health.

(d) “Good Neighbor Authority Agreement” means the Good Neighbor Authority Agreement that the Governor, the State Forester and the State Fish and Wildlife Director entered into with the United States Forest Service on March 29, 2016.

(2) It is the policy of the state to pursue projects under the Good Neighbor Authority...
Agreement that increase timber harvest volume, contribute to job creation, reduce wildfire risks to all lands, improve wildlife habitat and watershed health and stimulate local economies. To the extent allowed by the agreement, state agencies that are signatories to the agreement shall work with federal land management agencies to give priority to projects that:

(a) Consist of additive activities;

(b) Maximize economic benefit to this state; and

(c) Recover the state agency costs of implementing the projects.

SECTION 2. The Governor and the Federal Forest Working Group of Oregon Solutions at Portland State University shall jointly develop specific recommendations regarding goals for the Good Neighbor Authority Agreement as defined in section 1 of this 2018 Act. The Governor, or a state agency described in section 1 (2) of this 2018 Act designated by the Governor, shall report the recommendations to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 no later than March 1, 2019.

SECTION 3. There is allocated for the biennium ending June 30, 2019, from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund, to the State Forestry Department, the amount of $500,000 for the purpose of supporting the development, planning or implementation of projects on federal lands to which the signatory state agencies working with federal land management agencies under section 1 of this 2018 Act give priority under section 1 of this 2018 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2018 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2018 Act takes effect on its passage.