

Enrolled
Senate Bill 290

Sponsored by Senators HANSELL, JOHNSON; Representatives BARRETO, BONHAM, FINDLEY, STARK (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to civil immunity for volunteers fighting wildfires.

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

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

(a) **“Voluntarily” means not undertaken as a condition of employment or with an expectation of remuneration.**

(b) **“Wildfire” means a fire burning uncontrolled on private cropland, pasture, rangeland or other private agricultural land or threatening a structure on agricultural land.**

(2) **Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, a person that voluntarily undertakes the fighting of a wildfire is not civilly liable for any injury to person or property resulting from the good faith performance of firefighting efforts.**

(3) **Subsection (2) of this section applies to the performance of firefighting efforts that commence when the person arrives at the fire scene or a staging area and end when the person departs from the fire scene or staging area.**

(4) **Subsection (2) of this section does not apply to:**

(a) **Members of a volunteer fire department or fire district who have been trained in firefighting techniques; or**

(b) **The operation of a motor vehicle by a person.**

SECTION 2. **Section 1 of this 2019 Act applies to injury from firefighting efforts performed on or after the effective date of this 2019 Act.**

Passed by Senate April 10, 2019

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House May 22, 2019

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

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Approved:

.....M,....., 2019

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2019

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Bev Clarno, Secretary of State