

Senate Bill 292

Sponsored by Senator HANSELL (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**.

Declares state policy regarding fighting of wildfires on unprotected land.

Authorizes State Fire Marshal to enter into agreements with public and private entities for use as needed of equipment capable of utilization for fighting wildfires on unprotected land. Authorizes State Fire Marshal to dispatch equipment under agreement as State Fire Marshal deems appropriate. Authorizes Governor, upon recommendation of State Fire Marshal, to dispatch available public or private resources of any type for purpose of assisting persons fighting wildfire on unprotected land.

Creates Wildfire Resource Fund. Appropriates fund moneys for use by State Fire Marshal in providing equipment or firefighters to assist persons fighting wildfire on unprotected land.

Appropriates moneys to Wildfire Resource Fund for biennium beginning July 1, 2019.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to wildfires; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. It is the policy of this state that:**

5 **(1) The state is responsible for fighting wildfires on unprotected lands;**

6 **(2) The State Fire Marshal is the appropriate party to recommend to the Governor the**
7 **resources that can best assist local personnel in fighting wildfires on unprotected lands; and**

8 **(3) The Governor should, to the extent practicable, dispatch any resources recommended**
9 **by the State Fire Marshal for fighting wildfires on unprotected lands.**

10 **SECTION 2. (1) The State Fire Marshal may enter into agreements with state and federal**
11 **agencies and other public or private sources for the availability, as needed, of equipment that**
12 **can be utilized for fighting wildfires. The equipment may include, but need not be limited to,**
13 **aircraft and earthmoving equipment.**

14 **(2) The State Fire Marshal may order the dispatching of any equipment described in an**
15 **agreement under subsection (1) of this section that the State Fire Marshal deems appropri-**
16 **ate for use in assisting local personnel who are fighting a wildfire on unprotected land. In**
17 **addition to any authority of the Governor under ORS 476.510 to 476.610 and 477.190 and**
18 **477.200, upon recommendation by the State Fire Marshal, the Governor may dispatch avail-**
19 **able public or private resources of any type to assist local personnel who are fighting a**
20 **wildfire on unprotected land.**

21 **SECTION 3. The Wildfire Resource Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate**
22 **and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Wildfire Resource Fund shall**
23 **be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Fire**
24 **Marshal for the purpose of dispatching equipment or firefighters as the State Fire Marshal**
25 **deems appropriate to assist local personnel in the fighting of wildfires on unprotected lands.**

26 **SECTION 4. Any federal funding that is received by state government as assistance in**

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 **dealing with a wildfire and not otherwise restricted to use for a designated purpose shall be**
2 **deposited to the credit of the Wildfire Resource Fund.**

3 **SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
4 **ated for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of**
5 **\$5,000,000 for deposit into the Wildfire Resource Fund.**

6 **SECTION 6. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
7 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**
8 **July 1, 2019.**

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