

HB 2795 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Action Date: 04/08/21

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 9-1-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Breese-Iverson, Cate, Hudson, Marsh, Post, Reardon, Smith DB, Williams, Witt

Nays: 1 - McLain

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/6, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$5,000,000 to the State Forestry Department to facilitate projects pursued under the Good Neighbor Authority Agreement that reduce wildfire risks. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Self-sustaining component of the program
- Benefits of fostering a collaborative approach to treating and restoring forest health and on reducing wildfires
- Possibilities of integrating wildfire bills into one bill or a few

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) allows the United States Forest Service (USFS) to enter into cooperative agreements with states so that states can perform forest management and watershed restoration services on National Forest System lands. A GNA Master Agreement between the USFS and State of Oregon was signed in March of 2016.

House Bill 2795 would appropriate \$5,000,000 to the State Forestry Department to facilitate projects pursued under the Good Neighbor Authority Agreement that reduce wildfire risks.