Senate Bill 868

Sponsored by Senators TAYLOR, JOHNSON, GOLDEN; Senators FINDLEY, KNOPP, STEINER HAYWARD

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**.

Modifies appointing authority for State Forester. Directs Governor to consult State Board of Forestry before appointing forester to term of four years. Subjects appointment to Senate confirmation.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to the State Forester; amending ORS 526.031; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 526.031 is amended to read:

5 526.031. (1) [The State Board of Forestry] The Governor, after consultation with the State

6 Board of Forestry, shall appoint a State Forester[,] for a term of four years. The forester

7 serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The forester [who] must be a practical forester familiar

8 with western conditions and experienced in organization for the prevention of forest fires. The

9 forester shall be the chief executive officer of the State Forestry Department and shall act as

10 secretary of the board. [The forester shall hold office at the pleasure of the board, and shall act as

11 *its secretary.*]

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(2) The appointment of the forester by the Governor is subject to confirmation by the
Senate under ORS 171.562 and 171.565.

[(2)] (3) With the approval of the board and subject to applicable provisions of the State Personnel Relations Law, the State Forester may appoint a Deputy State Forester, assistant state foresters and other employees of the department. During the State Forester's absence or disability, all authority shall be exercised by the Deputy State Forester or by the assistant whom the State Forester or the board, by written order filed with the Secretary of State, has designated as Acting State Forester.

[(3)] (4) The board shall fix the compensation of the State Forester. In addition to their salaries, the forester, the deputy and assistants shall be reimbursed, subject to the limitations otherwise provided by law, for their actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

24 <u>SECTION 2.</u> This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 25 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect 26 on its passage.

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