

Chair:
Sen. Jeff Golden

Vice-Chair:
Sen. Fred Girod

Staff:
Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst
Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst
Sean Murphy, Committee Assistant

Members:
Sen. Floyd Prozanski
Sen. Kathleen Taylor
Sen. David Brock Smith



82nd LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDFIRE
State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1731

TO: Senate Interim Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
FROM: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst
RE: 2024 Committee LC Summaries
DATE: January 10, 2024

LC 81 – Directs the State Fire Marshal to collaboratively establish a neighborhood protection cooperative grant program to promote community wildfire resilience. Requires the State Fire Marshal to award grants to local governments, fire district related organizations, and nongovernmental organizations for the purpose of providing grants to property owners for wildfire resilience efforts. Requires the State Fire Marshal to develop criteria for grant awards in consultation with specified partners, and to publish the criteria on the department website by July 1, 2024. Specifies possible criteria requirements for consideration by the State Fire Marshal. Requires the State Fire Marshal to provide a status update on the grant program establishment and administration as part of an existing biannual report to the legislature. Directs the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Department of the State Fire Marshal, and the State Forestry Department, in consultation with insurance industry representatives, to develop a plan and implementation timeline for establishing a risk reduction certification program, and to submit a preliminary report to natural resources related legislative committees by December 1, 2024. Requires that the risk reduction certification program identifies wildfire risk mitigation actions that merit consideration in determining underwriting and insurance premium rates in such a way that is favorable to property owning insurance policy holders. Establishes the Neighborhood Protection Cooperative Grant Program Fund and appropriates \$5 million to the fund for grant awards. Declares emergency, effective on passage. (Dated 12/19/23).

LC 91 – Eliminates the lottery for Columbia River gillnet vessel permits, and reaffirms that no new vessel permits may be issued in the absence of the lottery. Directs the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to establish a program to purchase and retire inactive permits through January 2026, and prohibits a person from transferring or selling an inactive permit to a party other than the Commission. Requires the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide a report on the Columbia River gillnet fishery to a natural resources related interim legislative committee by September 15, 2024, and specifies report requirements. Declares emergency, effective on passage. (Dated 12/18/23).

LC 208 – Authorizes the Department of the State Fire Marshal to require fingerprints of employees, applicants for employment, contractors, subcontractors, vendors, and volunteers for criminal background checks. Declares emergency, effective on passage. (Dated 12/15/23).