

Senate Bill 772

Sponsored by Senators GOLDEN, PROZANSKI, DEMBROW, Representative MARSH; Senators HANSELL, ROBLAN, TAYLOR, WAGNER, Representatives HELM, POWER, SCHOUTEN

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**.

Establishes Task Force on Forest Health Enhancement to design program for carrying out certain forest-related activities. Requires task force to report recommendations to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2020.

Sunsets task force December 31, 2020.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to a task force on forest health enhancement; and prescribing an effective date.

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

3 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Forest Health Enhancement is established.**

4 (2)(a) **The task force consists of the appointed members described in this paragraph and**
5 **any invitees under paragraph (b) of this subsection electing to be members of the task force.**

6 **The appointed members shall include:**

7 (A) **A representative of the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps appointed by the corps**
8 **program director.**

9 (B) **A representative of community colleges appointed by the executive director of the**
10 **Higher Education Coordinating Commission.**

11 (C) **A representative of the State Forestry Department appointed by the State Forester.**

12 (D) **A representative of Oregon State University appointed by the Dean of the College of**
13 **Forestry at Oregon State University.**

14 (E) **A representative of the Department of Corrections appointed by the Director of the**
15 **Department of Corrections.**

16 (F) **At least three and not more than six members appointed by the Governor. The**
17 **members appointed by the Governor shall include, but need not be limited to, representatives**
18 **of private timberland owners, private insurers of properties in forestland-urban interface**
19 **areas and community-based forest stakeholder groups.**

20 (b) **The Governor shall invite the following to participate as members of the task force:**

21 (A) **The members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation or their designees.**

22 (B) **The regional forester for the United States Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region**
23 **or a designee of the regional forester.**

24 (C) **The Oregon-Washington State Director of the Bureau of Land Management or a**
25 **designee of the state director.**

26 (3) **The task force shall develop recommendations for the design of a statewide program**
27 **to develop and provide labor resources adequate to:**

28 (a) **Reduce forest fuel levels;**

29 **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 **(b) Conduct thinning of forest tree species in accordance with best practices for man-**
2 **agement of forest health; and**

3 **(c) Provide training for employment in the forest products industry.**

4 **(4) In developing recommendations under subsection (3) of this section, the task force**
5 **shall review and consider the design of any similar programs in other states.**

6 **(5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
7 **of business.**

8 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
9 **of the task force.**

10 **(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

11 **(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
12 **ment to become immediately effective.**

13 **(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
14 **or of a majority of the members of the task force.**

15 **(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

16 **(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may**
17 **include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assem-**
18 **bly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2020.**

19 **(12) The State Forestry Department shall provide staff support to the task force.**

20 **(13) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for**
21 **expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.**

22 **(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
23 **the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted**
24 **by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**
25 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

26 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.

27 **SECTION 3.** This 2019 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2019
28 regular session of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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