

## HB 3160 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

---

**Prepared By:** Cassie Passon, Counsel

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/18, 4/13

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund and lists appropriation percentages to State Fire Marshal, State Forestry Department and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. Directs State Fire Marshal, State Forestry Department and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to make expenditures from fund for various activities related to restoration, protection and recovery from wildfires. Requires State Fire Marshal, the State Forester and executive director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to submit a joint report to Governor and Legislative Assembly with oversight over forestry issues that details the agencies' activities no later than December 31 of each year. Requires every insurer each year to remit to Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services surcharge of \$10 for each policy of insurance that is casualty insurance or property insurance. Sets \$1000 minimum insurer must remit to director. Permits insurer each year to recoup from insureds amount insurer remitted to director. Requires director to deposit proceeds of surcharge into Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund.

*Subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.*

*REVENUE: Revenue impact issued*

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Risk from Fires
- Cost of damage, response, clean up
- Forest Thinning
- Funding
- Technical fix amendment coming
- Federal land management
- Insurance rates
- Financial solutions to wildfire prevention and intervention
- Matching funds requirements
- Interconnectivity of natural resources
- Section 5 of bill
- Last raise of insurance tax rates
- Retaliatory taxes on insurers
- Number of insurers based in OR and WA
- Progressive versus regressive tax
- lack of penalties for non payment of tax
- Agency plans for funds

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

## HB 3160 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is located within the Office of the State Police. OSFM was established in 1917 and its current mission is to protect Oregonians and their property, as well as the environment from both hazardous materials and fires.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is the state agency that manages Oregon's forests. ODF aims to protect Oregon's forests by promoting stewardship and investing in their environmental and economic sustainability.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) provides grants to care for Oregon's waterways. OWEB started out in 1987 with the Legislative Assembly's creation of the Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board. OWB uses federal dollars, lottery funds, and revenue from the salmon license plates to provide grants to landowners for projects that care for the rivers and natural areas on their property.

House Bill 3160 establishes the Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund to provide funds to the State Fire Marshal, the State Forestry Department and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board activities related to the restoration, protection and recovery from wildfires.