

HB 3160 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Revenue

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 5/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes a \$10 surcharge on property and causality insurance policies written in Oregon, with a \$1,000 minimum fee paid to the state. Establishes The Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund (OWPACPF). Continuously appropriates moneys from the OWPACPF as follows: 50% of the fund to the State Fire Marshall, 25% to the State Forestry Department, and 25% to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. Requires the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to pay into the OWPACPF all funds received from the surcharge in this bill. Allows for moneys from the OWPACPF to be invested in the same manner as other state funds and requires any interest earned be deposited into the fund. Requires the State Treasurer to record all deposits into the fund, the source from which the moneys are derived, and the interest earned on the fund, and any withdrawals from the fund. Requires interest be paid into the fund if moneys are used for programs other than the program for which the fund was established. Allows State Fire Marshall, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and State Forestry department to accept gifts from any source and requires those gifts be deposited into the OWPACPF. Requires the State Fire Marshall use funds to prepare for and protect communities against wildfires, funding full-time firefighters, and developing and implementing wildfire protection plans. Requires State Fire Marshall to adopt rules to facilitate implementation of programs described in bill. Requires State Forestry Department to take preventative measures, provide priority to projects that save lives and infrastructure, and adopt rules related to implementation of preventative measures.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces the bill. Establishes surcharges on the number of policies insurers retain in each calendar year. For policies covering multiple perils for commercial or farm or fire insurance for commercial the surcharges are \$25 per year for policies with premium amounts of \$10,000 or less, \$50 per year on properties that have annual premiums of more than \$10,000 on an annual basis. For homeowner insurance policies that cover multiple perils or personal insurance policies that cover the peril of fire the surcharges are \$10 per year for policies with annual premiums of \$1,000 or less, \$25 per year for policies with an annual premium of more than \$1,000.

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BACKGROUND:

Oregon's 2020 fire season saw destruction of homes, properties, and lives. HB 3160 develops the Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund to address future fire season preparations.