

**SJM 3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Cate

**House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources**

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**Action Date:** 05/13/21

**Action:** Be Adopted.

**Vote:** 10-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 10 - Breese-Iverson, Cate, Hudson, Marsh, McLain, Post, Reardon, Smith DB, Williams, Witt

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Stuty Maskey, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/4, 5/13

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Urges the U.S. President and Congress to establish and fund a federal system to fully reimburse state and local government property owners and private property owners for damage to real property that results from the spreading of wildfires that originate on federal lands.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Forested acres that have burned in Oregon in the past decade and the origin of these wildfires
- Financial and human costs of the 2020 Labor Day fires
- Differences in liability and compensatory requirements for private landowners compared to federal government based on the fire origin

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Approximately 60 percent of Oregon forestland is owned by the federal government, with the U.S. Forest Service owning most of those federal lands, followed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service. Many wildfires in Oregon originate on those federal lands, including 15 of the recent 16 megafires.

Senate Joint Memorial 3 would urge the U.S. President and Congress to establish and fund a federal system to fully reimburse state and local government property owners and private property owners for damage to real property that results from the spreading of wildfires that originate on federal lands.