

Senate Bill 653

Sponsored by Senator KNOPP; Senator GIROD (Presession filed.)

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**.

Appropriates \$50 million to State Forestry Department to fund increased forest thinning operations in specified wildfire-prone counties. Directs department to allocate \$5 million to fund forest thinning operations on public lands located in each wildfire-prone county. Requires department to confer with county governing body of each county to determine which specific forest thinning operations to fund.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to funding for forest thinning; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
5 **ated to the State Forestry Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the**
6 **General Fund, the amount of \$50 million, which may be expended for the purpose of making**
7 **the distributions to wildfire-prone counties to conduct forest thinning operations, as de-**
8 **scribed in section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

9 **SECTION 2. (1) Moneys appropriated to the State Forestry Department under section 1**
10 **of this 2023 Act shall be used to conduct forest thinning operations in Clackamas, Deschutes,**
11 **Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn and Marion Counties.**

12 **(2) From the appropriation described in subsection (1) of this section, the department**
13 **shall allocate \$5 million to each county listed in subsection (1) of this section to fund activ-**
14 **ities described in this subsection. The department shall confer with the county governing**
15 **body for each county to determine specific forest thinning operations to be conducted, so**
16 **that:**

17 **(a) Forest thinning operations on state lands located in a county may be used to directly**
18 **fund department operations to conduct forest thinning; and**

19 **(b) The remaining balance of moneys may be used to fund county governing body efforts**
20 **to increase forest thinning operations on public lands within that county.**

21 **SECTION 3. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
22 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect**
23 **on its passage.**

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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.