

HB 2819 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/5, 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the State Forester or a person authorized by the State Forester to issue citations for fire protection violations not witnessed firsthand if reasonable grounds exist based on information received, scene investigation, or a witness statement.

Fiscal: Minimal impact

Revenue: Minimal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of enforcement officer.
- Types of violations included.
- Whether an unwitnessed violation can be cited.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment redefines an enforcement officer to mean the State Forester or a person authorized by the State Forester.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law allows an enforcement officer to issue a violation citation only if the conduct takes place in the presence of the enforcement officer and the enforcement officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the conduct constitutes a violation. House Bill 2819 allows the State Forester, or person authorized by the State Forester, to issue citation without personally witnessing the conduct of a fire protection law violation.