

HB 3350 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/25, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates funding to the State Department of Forestry for deposit in the Rangeland Protection Association Fund. Declares emergency, takes effect upon passage.

Fiscal impact: Fiscal lite

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of the work of the Rangeland Fire Protection Associations, including their response to recent wildfires
- Examples of the typical costs associated with wildfire response and the limited revenue available to associations
- Confirmation that association members pay dues to assist with costs
- Estimations of the cost of fuel for wildfire response, and other costs that association members might not get reimbursed for

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Adds \$1 million for the appropriation

BACKGROUND:

Rangeland Fire Protection Associations operate as independent associations of landowners that provide local wildfire protection. According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, the department supports these associations through administrative guidance, administrative cost reimbursement, fire suppression training, and facilitating access to federal grants and surplus firefighting equipment.