

HB 2817 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Prepared By: Alexa Piscanio, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/17, 4/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure eliminates permit closure as an option for restricting access to forestland exposed to fire danger.

Fiscal impact: No fiscal impact.

Revenue impact: No revenue impact.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 57; Nays, 0; Excused, 3.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current types of forest closures
- Forester processes and determinations for proclaiming a closure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, if a forester determines that forestland inside or near a forest protection district faces extra fire hazard risk, they can issue a proclamation to declare the area an extra fire hazard and place restrictions on how the land can be used. The proclamation must identify the specific area affected, the duration of the restrictions, and require compliance with all rules for entry and use.

The type of closure declared can be one of the following:

- Regulated closure,
- Permit closure; or,
- Absolute closure.