

HB 2819 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 4/30, 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure 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.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 38; Nays, 18

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

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

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

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 2819A allows the State Forester, or person authorized by the State Forester, to issue a citation without personally witnessing the conduct of a fire protection law violation.