

**Enrolled**  
**House Bill 2819**

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor Tina Kotek for State Forestry Department)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to fire protection enforcement procedures; amending ORS 477.985.

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

**SECTION 1.** ORS 477.985 is amended to read:

477.985. (1) **As used in this section:**

(a) **“Credible witness” means a person who has observed conduct alleged to constitute a violation and whose statement about the observation is reliable based on:**

(A) **The content of the observation;**

(B) **The circumstances around the observation; and**

(C) **Whether the observation is consistent with any other evidence.**

(b) **“Enforcement officer” means the State Forester or a person authorized by the State Forester.**

(2) *[In addition to any other persons permitted to enforce violations, the State Forestry Department and the State Forester, or any employee specifically designated by the department or by the State Forester,] An enforcement officer may issue [citations for violations] a citation for a violation established under ORS 477.993 in the manner provided by ORS chapter 153.*

(3) **Notwithstanding ORS 153.042, an enforcement officer may issue a citation for a violation as described in subsection (2) of this section when the enforcement officer did not observe the conduct alleged to constitute a violation if the enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the conduct constitutes a violation based on physical evidence or a statement provided by a credible witness.**

---

**Passed by House March 18, 2025**

**Repassed by House June 20, 2025**

.....  
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

.....  
Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate June 16, 2025**

.....  
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M.,....., 2025

**Approved:**

.....M.,....., 2025

.....  
Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M.,....., 2025

.....  
Tobias Read, Secretary of State