

House Bill 4054

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Natural Resources for Representative Brad Witt)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Moves provision regarding giving notification of wildfire to forestland owner.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to wildfires; amending ORS 477.066; and repealing ORS 477.067.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 477.066 is amended to read:

477.066. (1) Each owner and operator of forestland on which a fire exists or from which it may have spread, notwithstanding the origin or subsequent spread thereof, shall immediately proceed to control and extinguish such fire when its existence comes to the knowledge of the owner or operator, without awaiting instructions from the forester, and shall continue until the fire is extinguished.

(2) If the forester determines the fire is either burning uncontrolled or the owner or operator does not then have readily and immediately available personnel and equipment to control or extinguish the fire, the forester, or any forest protective association or agency under contract or agreement with the State Board of Forestry for the protection of forestland against fire, and within whose protection area the fire exists, shall summarily abate the nuisance thus constituted by controlling and extinguishing the fire.

(3) An owner may request in writing that the forester employ alternate fire prevention and suppression strategies or techniques on the owner's forestland. The forester may employ some or all of the requested strategies or techniques when, in the judgment of the forester, conditions warrant the use of the alternate strategies or techniques.

(4) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, notification to the owner or operator of the forestland is considered sufficient notification to the owner of the existence of a fire.

SECTION 2. ORS 477.067 is repealed.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.