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**SENATE BILL 5257**

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**State of Washington**                      **54th Legislature**                      **1995 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hargrove, Owen, Palmer, A. Anderson and Snyder

Read first time 01/17/95. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1            AN ACT Relating to controlling damage to areas burned in 1994; and  
2 adding a new section to chapter 76.04 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 76.04 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            In the summer of 1994, wildfires burned over two hundred eighty  
7 thousand acres and included a one hundred thirty-five thousand acre  
8 fire in eastern Washington that was Washington's largest fire since  
9 1929. One of the reasons the fires became so widespread was that dead  
10 trees and underbrush had been allowed to accumulate, providing fuel for  
11 fires started by lightening strikes. It is the intent of the  
12 legislature to reduce future fire devastation and to ensure the long-  
13 term health of the areas that were burned in the 1994 fires.

14            The department of natural resources shall develop a plan for  
15 salvage logging and reforesting areas burned in the 1994 fires. The  
16 plan shall include proposals to remove damaged and dead trees and

1 excess vegetation and proposals to control flood, mud, and erosion  
2 damage. The plan shall be implemented as soon as possible.

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