
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4424

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Sump, Armstrong, Morell, Doumit and Rockefeller

Read first time 01/30/2002. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 WHEREAS, The legislature finds that the state has committed a large
2 amount of resources to fight forest fires in the state; and

3 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that there are numerous ways to
4 improve how resources are mobilized and used to fight forest fires; and

5 WHEREAS, Efficiencies can be identified for forest fires in which
6 the state mobilization plan is activated, and for forest fires that
7 remain local in nature; and

8 WHEREAS, A large number of private contractors who live close to
9 the site of a fire and know the terrain, and who have specialized fire-
10 fighting equipment, are frequently not called upon to assist in
11 fighting the forest fire; and

12 WHEREAS, The state mobilization plan only allows public agencies to
13 be mobilized under the plan; and

14 WHEREAS, The lack of an agreement with Oregon precludes private
15 contractors from Washington from working to fight fires in Oregon; and

16 WHEREAS, Improvements can be made in training people throughout the
17 system; and

18 WHEREAS, A large number of people with extensive experience in
19 fighting forest fires are eager to assist the state in updating its
20 practices;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives of
2 the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That the House of
3 Representatives natural resources committee and the Senate natural
4 resources, parks and shorelines committee jointly review the current
5 procedures used to mobilize resources to fight forest fires under the
6 state mobilization plan and through the department of natural resources
7 to develop recommendations to ensure that the closest people to a fire
8 are called first, to allow private contractors to be mobilized under
9 the state mobilization plan, and to identify other efficiencies; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committees review recent studies
11 that made recommendations regarding ways to improve ways to fight
12 forest fires in the state, and that the committees shall consult with
13 representatives of private contractors, fire districts, municipal fire
14 departments, the department of natural resources, the state fire
15 marshal, appropriate federal agencies, and other interested groups in
16 developing the recommendations; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the staffing for the committees be
18 provided by the House of Representatives office of program research and
19 Senate committee services; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committees report their findings
21 and recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2003.

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