
HOUSE BILL 2561

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Dent, Blake, Dye, Doglio, Johnson, Peterson, and Eslick

Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to temporary duties for the wildland fire
2 advisory committee; creating a new section; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The commissioner of public lands must
6 direct the wildland fire advisory committee established in RCW
7 76.04.179 to review, analyze, and make recommendations on the
8 following issues related to wild fire prevention, response, and
9 suppression activities within our state:

10 (a) The committee must evaluate the existing fire mobilization
11 process and identify any potential efficiencies; time, resource, and
12 cost savings; or other reforms that could lead to a more effective,
13 coordinated wildfire response.

14 (b) The committee must analyze the existing role of the
15 Washington state patrol in wildfire response activities with a focus
16 as to whether there are changes to that role that would be more
17 supportive to the entities that respond and suppress the fires.

18 (c) The committee, with the assistance of department of natural
19 resources' personnel, must approximately quantify the areas in the
20 state that are not contained within an established fire district nor
21 subject to a planned fire response and make recommendations as to how

1 these areas could be protected as well as a source of funding for any
2 recommended activities.

3 (d) The committee must examine the value of community programs
4 that educate homeowners and engage in preventive projects within wild
5 fire risk communities, such as firewise, and make recommendations on
6 whether these programs should be advanced, and if so, how, including
7 potential sources of ongoing funding for the programs.

8 (2) The department of natural resources must provide to the
9 appropriate committees of the legislature a status report of the
10 committee's efforts by December 31, 2018, and issue a report with the
11 committee's recommendations by November 15, 2019.

12 (3) This section expires December 31, 2019.

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