

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5619

### FULL VETO

As Passed Legislature

**Brief Description:** Modifying the forest fire protection assessment process.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation (originally sponsored by Senator Jacobsen; by request of Office of Financial Management).

**Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation**  
**House Committee on Natural Resources**

**Background:** The Department of Natural Resources provides fire protection on private lands, which is funded partially by an assessment on private landowners and partially by the general fund. Fire protection includes both preventive measures and the actual fighting of fires when they occur. Forest landowners of small parcels can get a refund for fire assessments on more than one parcel in each county where they own land.

**Summary:** Owners of small parcels of forest lands may submit an application listing the parcels owned to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the computation of forest fire protection assessments. The property owner may submit only one application per county. DNR must compute the assessment and allocate one parcel for collecting the assessment. The county bills the assessment to this one identified parcel. The property owner is required to notify DNR of any changes in ownership of the parcels.

Property owners with the following number of parcels may apply to DNR in the year indicated:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Parcels</b>
2000	10 or more parcels
2001	8 or more parcels
2002	6 or more parcels
2003	4 or more parcels
2004 and thereafter	2 or more parcels

### **Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	46	0	
House	92	0	(House amended)
Senate	44	0	(Senate concurred)