

SHB 2561 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/02/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Subject to amounts appropriated for
4 this specific purpose, the commissioner of public lands must direct
5 the wildland fire advisory committee established in RCW 76.04.179 to
6 review, analyze, and make recommendations on the following issues
7 related to wild fire prevention, response, and suppression activities
8 within our state:

9 (a) The committee, with the assistance of department of natural
10 resources' personnel, must approximately quantify the areas in the
11 state that are not contained within an established fire district nor
12 subject to a planned fire response and make recommendations as to how
13 these areas could be protected as well as a source of funding for any
14 recommended activities. In doing so, the committee must, in time for
15 inclusion in the December 31, 2018, status report: Review the
16 relevant recommendations contained in the joint legislative audit and
17 review committee's 2017 final report on fees assessed for forest fire
18 protection; analyze and develop recommendations on potential
19 administrative and legislative actions including, for example, the
20 process proposed in chapter . . . (Substitute Senate Bill No. 6575),
21 Laws of 2018; and consult with any relevant stakeholders, as deemed
22 necessary by the committee, that are not represented on the
23 committee.

24 (b) The committee must examine the value of community programs
25 that educate homeowners and engage in preventive projects within wild
26 fire risk communities, such as firewise, and make recommendations on
27 whether these programs should be advanced, and if so, how, including
28 potential sources of ongoing funding for the programs.

29 (c) The committee must also develop plans to help protect non-
30 English speaking residents during wildfire emergencies. The committee
31 may enlist the assistance from the state ethnic and diversity

1 commissions or any other organizations who have expertise in public
2 outreach to non-English speaking people.

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

7 (3) This section expires December 31, 2019."

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8 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "committee;" strike the
9 remainder of the title and insert "creating a new section; and
10 providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: (1) Specifies that the committee must review a JLARC
report, develop recommendations on potential processes to resolve the
issue of unprotected lands, and consult with other relevant
stakeholders, if any, by December 31, 2018.

(2) Makes the bill subject to amounts appropriated for this
specific purpose.

(3) Requires the committee to establish plans to help protect
non-English speaking residents during wildfire emergencies.

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