
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair
2021 - 2022 Regular Session

SB 926 (Dodd) - Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program: Prescribed Fire Claims Fund

Version: March 10, 2022
Urgency: Yes
Hearing Date: May 19, 2022

Policy Vote: N.R. & W. 8 - 0, G.O. 13 - 0
Mandate: No
Consultant: Ashley Ames

Bill Summary: This bill would establish the Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program and implement the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund.

******* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *******
**The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on May 19, 2022**

Fiscal Impact:

- The Department of General Services (DGS) estimates costs of about \$2 million annually for the first three years and \$1.8 million annually thereafter (General Fund) for the creation of a new program within the Office of Risk and Insurance Management to manage a prescribed fire claims fund as well as to process, review, and determine the merits of claims filed pursuant to this bill. (Some of these costs could still be incurred absent this bill, either by DGS or by another state department, as part of an Administration plan for implementation of the pilot program or the claims fund. Please see staff comments for details.)
- To the extent that this bill encourages forest treatment activities that reduce the occurrence or severity of catastrophic wildfires from what otherwise would occur, this bill would result in potentially significant savings due to avoided fire suppression and other costs (General Fund).

Committee Amendments: The committee amendments would add a coauthor to the bill.

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