

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 929

Introduced by Assembly Member Jones

February 22, 2013

An act to amend Section 4210 of the Public Resources Code, relating to state responsibility areas.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 929, as introduced, Jones. State responsibility areas: structures: fees.

Existing law states that the Legislature finds and declares that fire protection of public trust resources on lands in state responsibility areas remains a vital interest to California and that it is necessary to impose a fire prevention fee to pay for fire prevention activities in the state responsibility areas that specifically benefit owners of structures in the areas.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4210 of the Public Resources Code is
2 amended to read:
3 4210. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
4 (a) Fire protection of ~~the~~ public trust resources on lands in ~~the~~
5 state responsibility areas remains a vital interest to California.
6 Lands that are covered in whole or in part by a diverse plant
7 community prevent excessive erosion, retard runoff, reduce

1 sedimentation, and accelerate water percolation to assist in the
2 maintenance of critical sources of water for environmental,
3 irrigation, domestic, or industrial uses.

4 (b) The presence of structures within state responsibility areas
5 can pose an increased risk of fire ignition and an increased potential
6 for fire damage within the state’s wildlands and watersheds. The
7 presence of structures within state responsibility areas can also
8 impair wild land firefighting techniques and could result in greater
9 damage to state lands caused by wildfires.

10 (c) The costs of fire prevention activities aimed at reducing the
11 effects of structures in state responsibility areas should be borne
12 by the owners of these structures.

13 (d) Individual owners of structures within state responsibility
14 areas receive a disproportionately larger benefit from fire
15 prevention activities than that realized by the state’s citizens
16 generally.

17 (e) It is the intent of the Legislature that the economic burden
18 of fire prevention activities that are associated with structures in
19 state responsibility areas shall be equitably distributed among the
20 citizens of the state who generally benefit from those activities
21 and those owners of structures in the state responsibility areas who
22 receive a specific benefit other than that general benefit.

23 (f) It is necessary to impose a fire prevention fee to pay for fire
24 prevention activities in the state responsibility areas that
25 specifically benefit owners of structures in the state responsibility
26 areas.