

Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 16-0277.01 Thomas Morris x4218

SENATE BILL 16-003

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts and Jones, Baumgardner, Cooke, Merrifield

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Becker K., Buck, Singer, Thurlow

Senate Committees

Judiciary
Appropriations

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING INCREASED METHODS TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Section 1 of the bill adds broadcast burning, the method by which fire is applied generally to most or all of an area within well-defined boundaries with well-defined conditions, as an optional method for which the department of natural resources may award grants from the wildfire risk reduction fund to reduce wildfire risk in the wildland-urban interface.

Sections 2 and 3 transfer \$3 million to the wildfire risk reduction fund, half from tier 2 of the severance tax operational fund and half from

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

the general fund.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 36-7-402, **amend** (3)
3 introductory portion as follows:

4 **36-7-402. Definitions.** As used in this part 4, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 (3) "Hazardous fuel reduction treatment" means treatments that
7 remove or reduce vegetative fuel, including mechanical, manual,
8 BROADCAST BURNING, and pile burning fire treatments, in order to:

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 36-7-405, **amend** (2)
10 as follows:

11 **36-7-405. Wildfire risk reduction fund - creation - transfer -**
12 **repeal.** (2) (a) (I) On July 1, 2013, the state treasurer shall transfer from
13 the general fund to the wildfire risk reduction fund the sum of nine
14 million eight hundred thousand dollars.

15 (II) THIS PARAGRAPH (a) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016.

16 (b) (I) ON JULY 1, 2016, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER:

17 (A) FROM THE SEVERANCE TAX OPERATIONAL FUND AS SPECIFIED
18 IN SECTION 39-29-109.3 (2) (t), C.R.S., TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION
19 FUND THE SUM OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

20 (B) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION
21 FUND THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

22 (II) THIS PARAGRAPH (b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

23 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, **add** (2)
24 (t) as follows:

25 **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - repeal.**

1 (2) Subject to the requirements of subsections (3) and (4) of this section,
2 if the general assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred percent
3 of the moneys in the operational fund as specified in subsection (1) of this
4 section, the state treasurer shall transfer the following:

5 (t) (I) TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION FUND CREATED IN
6 SECTION 36-7-405, C.R.S., ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND
7 DOLLARS ON JULY 1, 2016.

8 (II) THIS PARAGRAPH (t) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

9 **SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1602, amend (1)**
10 **as follows:**

11 **2-3-1602. Wildfire matters review committee - creation -**
12 **repeal of part. (1) To address wildfire prevention and mitigation and to**
13 **review and propose legislation relating to such matters, the wildfire**
14 **matters review committee is hereby created, and is referred to in this part**
15 **16 as the "committee". The committee shall meet at the call of the chair**
16 **at least once during the interim of each year to review and to propose**
17 **legislation or other policy changes relating to wildfire prevention and**
18 **mitigation and all related matters, including, without limitation, public**
19 **safety and forest health issues. The committee may TAKE UP TO TWO FIELD**
20 **TRIPS DURING THE INTERIM AND consult with experts in all fields relating**
21 **to wildfire prevention and mitigation as may be necessary to achieve the**
22 **objectives of this part 16. All personnel of any state agency or political**
23 **subdivision of Colorado involved in wildfire prevention and mitigation,**
24 **including the Colorado department of public safety and the Colorado state**
25 **forest service, shall cooperate with the committee and with any persons**
26 **assisting the committee in carrying out its duties pursuant to this section.**
27 **On June 5, 2013, any remaining powers, duties, and responsibilities**

1 delegated to and possessed by the lower north fork wildfire commission
2 created in section 2-2-1702 (1) are hereby transferred to the committee.

3 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.