

**STATE  
FISCAL IMPACT**

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<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 13-0116	<b>Date:</b> January 28, 2013
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Sen. Nicholson; Roberts Rep. Levy	<b>Bill Status:</b> Senate Local Government
	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Erin Vanderberg (303-866-4146)

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**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT INTERIM COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REVIEW MATTERS RELATING TO WILDFIRES IN THE STATE.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2013-2014</b>	<b>FY 2014-2015</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
General Fund	\$27,605	\$27,605
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	0.4 FTE	0.4 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> Upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014:</b> See State Appropriations section.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill, recommended by the **Lower North Fork Wildfire Commission**, creates a permanent interim committee, the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, to review and propose legislation related to wildfire prevention and mitigation in the state. Specifically, the committee will:

- meet at least once during the interim; and
- consult with experts, including the Department of Public Safety and the State Forest Service.

The Wildfire Matters Review Committee consists of ten members of the General Assembly, appointed by legislative leadership. Legislative members are entitled to the interim per diem and expenses to attend meetings. Legislative Council Staff and the Office of Legislative Legal Services are directed to assist the committee. The committee sunsets with a repeal date of July 1, 2018.

**State Expenditures**

This bill will increase state expenditures by at least \$ 27,605 per year between FY 2012-13 and FY 17-18 and require 0.4 FTE to support the permanent interim committee created by the bill.

Legislative Department appropriations support a limited number of interim committees each year. Funding is available for four committees during the 2013 interim. If the committee established by this bill is designated by the Legislative Council to be one of the prioritized committees, no additional appropriation will be required.

If this interim committee is not designated by the Legislative Council to be one of the prioritized committees, or if the costs of this interim committee are not included in the budgeted amount, the Legislative Department will incur additional costs as shown in Table 1 to support the interim committee. The fiscal note assumes that at least two meetings are necessary to review potential legislation and thereafter review bill drafts.

<b>Table 1. Expenditures Under SB13-082</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
Personal Services <i>Senior Research Assistant (0.3 FTE) and Staff Attorney (0.1 FTE)</i>	\$23,645	\$23,645
Legislator Per Diem and Expenses (10 members x \$198 x 2 meetings)	\$3,960	\$3,960
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,605</b>	<b>\$27,605</b>

**State Appropriations**

If the committee is prioritized by the Legislative Council and included as part of the Legislative Department budget for FY 2013-14, no appropriation is required. If not, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$27,605 and 0.4 FTE to the Legislative Branch in FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15.

**Departments Contacted**

Higher Education      Legislative Council      Legal Services      Public Safety